

Mr. Willard—Mr. Morrill took the ground that he could do the spraying all at the time suggested by Mr. Mann, but he has been doing it all winter. The result was magnificent, for he had a most wonderful crop last season. He cultivates thoroughly.

In a drouth can we work the soil too much?

Prof. Van Deman—I know of a gentleman in Illinois who undertook to determine the point. He had a piece of corn between the barn and the adjoining fields, and he had the boys, every time they drove out in the morning and at dinner time, run right through these rows, so that they made four trips and covered that piece with the cultivator almost every day, and he said he never raised such a crop of corn.

Hrof. Van Deman—We know the peach crop was a failure last year, especially about Mr. Morrell's neighborhood in Michigan, with the exception of his orchard; he had cultivated and thinned and pruned so thoroughly that his trees were in such condition they went through the terrible February blizzard all right. He took in nearly \$35,000 off from fifty acres. He sold some peaches as high as \$7 a basket; any three of them would weigh two pounds.

Has anyone had experience in top-working Keiffer pear on the Bartlett or any other variety; if so, with what results?

Mr. Hooker—It grows readily on the Bartlett, but the Bartlett does not grow on the Keiffer. I don't know what pear will do well on the Keiffer.

Mr. Geo. T. Powell—Bosc will do all right on Keiffer.

Mr. Willard—There seems to be a lack of affinity between the Keiffer and certain other varieties. I have tried Winter Nelis, and it looks all right so far.

Is there any reasonable chance for profitable returns from the planting of nut trees, or for timber growth?

Mr. Woodward—We have a Paragon chestnut growing very nicely. If you get a dozen to grow out of a hundred you will be happy. It is about three times as large as the common sweet chestnut. After removing the film my taste is not good enough to tell one from the other. I believe there is a great future in growing black walnuts. I know of one tree that when I was a boy I dug up and took home, and now it is thirty-two inches in diameter. I believe there is profit not only in growing nuts but also nut trees.

Mr. Barns—We are making some experiments with chestnuts, but it is too early to show definite results.

Is the Champion quince of any value in this latitude?

Mr. W. H. Pillow—The Champion is all right, but it is too late here.

Winter Pears—What do members know about the Directeur Alphande and the Dorset; are they desirable to grow for market? Name their weak points, and are there any better varieties?

Mr. Barry—We have been growing Directeur Alphande for some years. It is a very handsome fruit. The tree is vigorous and a great bearer; but of course it is of too recent origin to state definitely its value. Dorset is large size, handsome, and good quality, valuable as a late pear and a good shipper. It is a question in regard to the introduction of new pears; you have so many already; but both of these are additions of considerable consequence.

What is the latest report regarding the Japan plum October Purple?

Mr. Willard—I have been disappointed in it. It bloomed well, but failed to set well. I do not regard it as a great acquisition and would not advocate planting it.

—Report W. N. Y. Hort. Soc.