

copper; the wash of Prof. Saunders, that is, a saturated solution of soda; and I also tried hydraulic cement and skimmed milk mixed together, and hydraulic cement and water; also the wash they used up in Mr. McNeill's district of ashes and lime. After hunting the trees, I put all these washes on before July 15th, and then observed the condition of the washes and of the wrapping in different periods during the season to see how long they lasted and the effect they had, and we came to the conclusion that as far as wrappings went, the cheapest and most satisfactory one was the ordinary newspaper wrapping, that is, just taking one ordinary newspaper to a tree and wrapping it up the tree, unwinding it when the tree begins to swell, so that you will not girdle your tree. We do not get any borers unless the moth gets past the newspaper. It is an effectual stop, and will stay on for more than two months. Of course it will not cover the whole period. None of the washes stayed on during the whole season with the exception of the two cement washes. Prof. Smith, of New Jersey, told me about both of them. The cement and water was just mixed up into a good thick paste and put on with a whitewash brush about twelve inches from the foot of the tree. About the middle of August the cement was just about as good as if it was put on in July. By the end of August that one had very considerably cracked. Skim milk and cement seem to make it more adhesive, and in September that wash was as good as it was when put on in July. It is easily put on, and especially on the young trees where the bark was not rough it was perfectly successful. I only found two borers on the trees after putting the cement and skim milk on, and they were in little spots, rough places where the cement had failed to cover. I would strongly advise everybody to try that particular wash—just the hydraulic cement and skimmed milk mixed up into thick paste and put on before that date.

E. MORDEN (Niagara Falls): What about earthing up in the late summer?

Mr. BURRELL: I would earth up earlier than that—just after I hunted. If I were putting on a wash I would examine my trees during May or June, and then I would put the earth after I examined early, and then the moths would have to lay above that point where the earth was. I would do it before July.

Mr. ARMSTRONG: As an old peach grower, the wash indicated by Mr. Burrell, particularly that one described as hydraulic cement mixture, has a tendency to harden the new bark and hinder the sap coming up, especially in the young trees. I would not recommend it, and the coal tar has another effect which is very injurious to the growing trees, especially the young trees. I find the best wash I can get is simply the soft soap wash. It not only protects the trees from the insects but it assists in cleaning and clearing the bark.

Mr. BURRELL: I cannot say I have observed any injury in that way. I took note of all the washes I applied, and the Bordeaux and this lime and ashes and the cement were all about in the same condition; that is, they were smoother and shinier and in better shape. I put cement on two years running, not a very thick coat, and noticed to see if it would hurt. The peach trees were four years old. I saw no particular injury.

The PRESIDENT: Mr. Armstrong, you said you found coal tar was injurious to the tree. In what way? What is your experience?

Mr. ARMSTRONG: I have found that during the growing season the coal tar hardens the bark. I got it in St. Catharines fifteen or sixteen years ago, and I discarded it after a trial or two. I have found under the bark, instead of being thrifty and green and sappy it had a tendency to darken and stiffen the bark.

Mr. BURRELL: The cement is more or less porous; the tar would not be as porous.

The PRESIDENT: Was it a light coating, or was it put on pretty heavy?

Mr. ARMSTRONG: It was in July I think I put it on. I put it on lightly with a whitewash brush.

Mr. ORR: I have been using a mixture of lime and hardwood ashes. Last year, after careful searching, we found six borers out of 400 acres; this year we found five. The trees were in almost perfect condition.

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