

Mr. Salter.—The Frederick Clapp. It will grow either as a standard or as a dwarf.

Geo. Thompson.—Have you ever been troubled with a scab that cracks them? What method would you adopt to prevent that?

Mr. Salter.—That is prevented by spraying. The pear has its enemies as the Leaf Blight—but I do not think it is prevalent in this Province. It is found in some pear-growing sections of the United States. The blighting of the wood and bark—I do not think we have had it here. The leaf blight and bark blight are two different diseases. The leaf blight can be prevented with the Bordeaux Mixture. The bark blight is more serious. I saw by the reports of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association, that they can overcome it by spraying, but I believe it has never been stated as absolutely certain that this process of destroying it is effective. There is also a slimy slug that eats the leaves—that also can be overcome by spraying. The leaf blight turns the leaves red.

Q. What time do you spray?

Mr. Salter.—Just as soon as it appears.

J. Jackson.—What is the cause of the pears not being in good form—hard—woody?

Mr. Salter.—A pear tree, after bearing for 20 or 25 years generally outlives its usefulness, and the pears are sometimes woody and hard.

J. Jackson.—I have been advised to fertilize with iron filings.

Prof. Shutt.—I cannot imagine any soil so deficient in iron. Exceedingly small percentages of iron can be found in the ash of plants—6 to 8 per cent of Oxide of Iron. On general principles I do not see how it could act beneficially.

S. C. Parker.—As a matter of chemistry, I do not think they would ever get there to do any good.

Prof. Shutt.—No. They might be acted on by certain humic acids. If they were, I think it would have a detrimental effect rather than an ameliorating effect.

J. Jackson.—I have seen a fruit grower applying iron to the trees, and some driving nails in them.

Prof. Shutt.—Why not apply green vitriol, if you want to apply iron—It is exceedingly difficult to see what good it is.

Q. Is swamp muck any good?