

10. Is it more profitable to raise prolific fruits or high flavoured fruits?

11. What is the best material and form of trellis for training grape vines?

12. Is there any efficient and inexpensive mode of exterminating the canker worm?

It seemed to be the prevailing opinion that the best variety of quince was the well-known apple-shaped or orange quince, although no vote was taken.

With regard to the cultivation of the gooseberry, so much difficulty had been experienced from mildew, and of late years from the gooseberry saw-fly, which stripped off the foliage and destroyed the plants, that evidently not much attention had been given to the cultivation of this fruit, and nothing definite was arrived at upon the second and third questions.

The fourth question excited considerable discussion. The suggestion was made by Mr. Hooker that our forests should be regarded not as a thing to be preserved but to be renewed, and the timber regarded as a crop to be taken off when at its proper stage of growth; in short, that timber should hold its place in the greater cycles of rotation of crops.

The native elm was thought to be one of our most graceful and desirable ornamental trees; also the sugar maple, especially when planted in clumps; and the silver-leaf maple for planting singly. The Norway maple was highly esteemed as a beautiful species that grew rapidly. The tulip tree was very much admired, but it was difficult to transplant it. The different varieties of the linden or basswood were held in much esteem, particularly by bee fanciers. The horse-chestnut was mentioned as being suitable for lawns. The European larch was very highly spoken of as a rapid-growing and beautiful tree, and at the same time very valuable for timber. The locust was also very valuable, but of late years had been almost destroyed by the locust borer. One gentleman remarked that land worth fifty dollars per acre was too valuable to be planted with timber. One crop of wheat had returned him more money to the acre than the wood which he had cut from the same land, that had been a century in growing. Another suggested a material difference in the value of wood as fuel, and that which was truly termed timber, and suited to more valuable purposes.

In response to the 5th question, it appeared that the Norway spruce was the general favourite. Some favoured planting wide belts, and others only a single row, as a protection from the prevailing high winds. All agreed as to the beneficial effects of such a screen or wind-break, and the subject of planting for ornament was lost sight of in the more pressing thought of planting for shelter.

The 6th, 7th, and 8th questions were considered together, and no very definite conclusion reached. The old enemy of the plum, the curculio, came in for his share of

consideration, and various methods of killing or driving him away were suggested. One gentleman thought he had succeeded in so offending his nostrils by placing corn-cobs soaked in coal-tar in the trees, that he left in disgust. The black knot also received attention, and the old question whether this was caused by the curculio was revived. That it is not caused by the curculio is now the more generally received opinion.

The 9th question elicited quite an animated debate. The proposition that he who expends time, thought, labour, skill and means in the production of a valuable new fruit, ought to be protected by a patent as justly as he who produces a new machine, was well and forcibly put. But the majority of the members, while admitting that the originator of a new and valuable fruit deserved to be rewarded, maintained that it could not be done by patent. Some maintained that the honour of being the originator of a popular new fruit was sufficient remuneration, and others favoured the granting of Government bounties to the originators. No definite action was taken on the question.

The tenth question was considered at some length, and the general tone of the meeting evidently favoured the growing of the more choice varieties of fruit. It was suggested that if these varieties were grown by all fruit cultivators, the quantity thrown on the market would be so great that the price that could be obtained for the highest flavoured fruits would be no greater than for the more prolific sorts. To this it was replied by Mr. Hogg, of Lockport, that the demand for the best fruits had fully kept pace and would keep pace with the supply, and he stated that the Delaware grape now sold for twice as much as it did ten years ago. Mr. Crane had kept an accurate account with two rows of Concord grape vines and two rows of Delawares, and found that the Delawares returned him twice as much as the Concord. Another suggested that very much depended upon the manner in which fruit was put up and sent to market, and that often by careful selection a high price can be obtained for one half or less of the fruit in a barrel, when the whole would hardly sell at any price.

The eleventh question was left undecided. A couple of gentlemen occupied the time in describing how they made trellises for grape vines. One of them had just patented a new spiral trellis.

The discussion of the twelfth question made very apparent the fact that many intelligent fruit growers knew very little about entomology. The same insect was spoken of under names indicating several distinct species, and diverse species were spoken of as one and the same insect. The meeting very wisely appointed a committee of five, charged to obtain all the information possible in relation to the canker worm and all other varieties of worms that prey upon

fruit and shade trees, and the best means of prevention or destruction, and report at the next meeting of the Society.

There was a fine collection of winter pears exhibited by Messrs. Ellwanger & Barry, of Rochester, embracing twenty-five varieties. There were also some horticultural implements, and boxes and baskets for packing grapes and berries for market, on exhibition, which attracted considerable attention.

### Toronto Horticultural Society.

The Toronto Horticultural and Botanical Gardens Society held its annual meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 16, in the Mechanics' Institute, Toronto—the President, Hon. G. W. Allan, in the chair.

The Rev. E. Baldwin read the report, which showed that the sum of \$157 90 had been added to the balance of \$217 12, with which the past year was commenced, so that the Society begin this year with a balance on hand of \$374 02, the gross receipts being \$2,765 01, while the expenditure was \$2,390 02.

After the adoption of the report, the following officers were elected:—

President—Hon. George W. Allan; 1st Vice-President, Mr. James Fleming; 2nd Vice-President, Mr. P. Armstrong; Corresponding Secretary, Mr. W. S. Lee; Recording Secretary, Mr. J. A. Simmers.

DIRECTORS—Rev. E. Baldwin, Messrs. T. D. Harris, George Leslie, sen., Professor Buckland, J. A. Simmers, George Vair, S. Platt, W. Ince, J. Paterson, J. Grey, F. W. Coate, J. Gibson, Isaac Gilmour, J. Forsyth and Alex. McNabb.

AUDITORS—Messrs. F. Small and G. W. Buckland were appointed Auditors for the ensuing year.

### Unleached Ashes for Orchards.

A subscriber, writing from Hamilton, enquires whether ashes would be injurious to orchards if applied unleached. In reply, we would say, there is no objection whatever to the use of unleached ashes, only they must not be applied in as large a quantity at a time as leached ashes. Our correspondent's orchard being in sod, he might spread on the unleached ashes at the rate of sixty bushels to the acre, early in the spring, and carefully plough the sod under, cutting a thin slice not more than four inches deep, and allow it to decay. This will form an excellent top-dressing for his orchard.

Potato bugs have become very numerous and destructive in Ohio. Mr. A. C. Larcomb, of Portage, in that State, from less than an acre of potatoes, killed four bushels of potato bugs by actual measurement.

We know a cultivator who had heavy crops of plums for seventeen years in succession, his swine for these seventeen years, without a season's interruption, being allowed the run of the yard.—Country Gentleman.