

large orchards, and especially around Montreal, I think the later sprayings have to be made. There is a great deal of infection in these orchards, and if the spraying is not done after the tree has stopped growing, the later leaves thrown out will collect the germs and the fruit will be spotted. In such cases I should say that the last spraying would be the most effective, say about the 20th June, just as soon as the tree stops growing. I sprayed considerably last season, and as spraying increases I think an improvement will be noticed, as there won't be the same amount to destroy after one season has been properly done, more especially with regard to insects. A great many people may be discouraged after spraying once or twice and not getting clean apples. The more perfectly the work is done, I think the more profit there will be in it. In a bad season I dare say that you would almost need to exterminate the fungous germs entirely.

Mr. J. M. Fisk—I have done something in spraying. A year ago I did not meet with good success, as the season was very unfavorable, on account of wet, and I had not the proper nozzle, and the one I had I did not put on as it ought to have been put on. Consequently my "success was a failure." (Laughter.)

Mr. Barnard—Was that this year?

Mr. Fisk—It was '94. The past year I sprayed, and I had much better fruit, but I cannot say positively that it was due entirely to spraying, as many of my neighbors, with orchards situated in the same soil as mine, and who did not spray, had fruit about as good as mine. The past season seems to have been one in which the fungous growth did not develop as previously. I think it was a season in which you could not judge of results as well as in the past. So far as the foliage was concerned there was a marked difference in favor of the orchards which were sprayed. Those not sprayed, but which had equal fruit with those that were, showed a falling-off in the color and healthfulness of the foliage. I have come to the conclusion that in my case spraying during the past season was a benefit. With regard to the number of times of spraying, I first sprayed after the leaves came out. Vegetation came on very rapidly last season, and, from what I have read, I should judge that the first spraying with copper sulphate alone is an important one, because you strike the germ before it gets to work. If you destroy it before it is deposited on the foliage, you gain so much, and I think the first spraying should be looked upon as the most important of all. In old orchards I am satisfied that we need to go farther than spraying. Most of these orchards are too thickly planted, and it is impossible, where the trees are large, to get around them to do the work thoroughly.

The President—Do you mean to say that in old orchards you require to do something more than spraying, in order to do away with spot.

Mr. Fisk—Yes. You want to thin your orchard first, and then prune, and also enrich the soil. Old orchards are, to a large extent, impoverished, and we want to restore them, either by fertilizers, manure or phosphates, I don't know which; but I am satisfied that the properties which have been taken from the soil by frequent crops in old orchards are not going to be restored by spraying