

twelve feet high, in sheltered positions. I do not think it is a tree that should be recommended for planting, however. The Association ought to take up the matter, and make out lists of the ornamental trees adapted for different districts. There would be no difficulty at all in doing so, and it would save thousands of dollars to farmers. We have such a variety of climates that a very short distance makes a great difference in trees; those which may do very well here do not do as well in Toronto or Guelph.

Mr. MORRIS.—In regard to pruning, I think most shrubs, if left unpruned, become as unsightly as old currant bushes. Early blooming shrubs can be trimmed immediately after blooming, and the new growth will bloom the following season; I think that is the way they should be treated. Many, like althea, will grow into a good shrub without pruning, and of course I do not think they should be cut. I think Mr. Gilchrist is mistaken when he says that spruce cannot be pruned—

Mr. GILCHRIST.—I think they can be pruned but not improved.

Mr. MORRIS.—I differ from you there, again. The proper time to prune Norway spruce is about the 2nd of June. That is for this section. It would be later for the north. Just before they finish making their growth and begin to form the buds, by clipping the sides the buds will form further back. We have a hedge of it that grows about six inches every year, and we prune it the same as any other hedge, and it gets thicker every year; it is so thick that birds can hardly enter it. Of course I agree with Mr. Gilchrist as to ornamental trees, that they should be cut in only just a little. I would say that all evergreens require a good deal of manure. If they get plenty of food of that kind they will resist the winds on one side a great deal, and for trees that are already in that shape I do not know any other course than to trim off the other side and try to force the growth on that side also. Do the trimming about the latter end of June.

Mr. CRAIG.—I might say that the blue spruce grows very well at Ottawa; the principal trouble is a fungus that appears on the leaves about the 10th of June, and which is very bad now. The leaves are beginning to drop, and it disfigures the tree. This fungus seems to be the principal difficulty, and for it I am now trying the copper solution. Of the cornuses I think one of the most ornamental is the *cornus sericea*. Another that has not been mentioned is the tamarisk *amarensis*, which in Ottawa, however, is not quite hardy. Of the viburnums, probably the old English one is the best. Poplars I do not like, on account of the seeds and its sprouting habits. There is one of the American poplars that does not sprout, but I do not think it succeeds in this part of the country. *Catalpa speciosa* is not satisfactory at all; it will die the third or fourth year, and I do not think it is worth growing for an ornamental tree. Another tree which I think may be added to the list of hardy ornamental trees is the European larch. Of course it is not an evergreen, but it puts on beautiful foliage in the spring.

HUMBUGS IN HORTICULTURE.

The President announced that Mr. T. H. Race, of Mitchell, Ont., would read a paper on Humbugs in Horticulture.

Mr. RACE.—I have no paper prepared on the subject. I have met many humbugs in my time, and the list is a numerous one, but at the head of it I place the nurseryman, but who yet has not a foot of ground in the world, nor a single tree to his name. It has been stated here, and often elsewhere, that farmers are a class of people who take a delight in being humbugged; that they are better satisfied when they are being humbugged than when they are getting a fair deal. But even granting that to be so, the object of this Association is to extend and increase fruit-growing in this province, and I think for that reason it is our duty to protect the farmer from being humbugged, and to educate him up to a point where he will cease to feel any delight in the humbugging process. Our first object, as I have just said, is to extend the growth of fruit and its cultivation throughout the province; to awaken an interest among farmers as a class in this