

The most prominent lesson, gathered from last year's experience, is, that our greatest difficulty in growing fruits here is not altogether our severe winters, but our snowless ones; and also that considerable care should be exercised in recommending different varieties of fruits for general planting before passing through at least one of our test winters.

DISCUSSION.

MR. WHELLAMS. Did you say the gooseberries were killed?

A. Yes.

MR. WHELLAMS. I had the same experience as you had with everything except the gooseberries; they came out well and were a fine crop. The variety I have is Smith's Improved.

Q. What time should canes be covered?

A. About the middle of October.

Q. What is the latest date at which they could be covered?

A. Last week of October. The early covering is better. Last year the frost came very early in October, and the thermometer went down to zero. I think it was then that many of the canes were destroyed.

MR. HAY. With regard to roses, I have cultivated a few varieties. I had some completely covered, some only partly covered. The shrubs that were completely covered suffered the most. I really think the uncovered shrubs do the best.

MR. ALSTON. I am of opinion that much of the trouble came from the early frost, because we had shrubs that were well covered with snow all winter and they were the worst frozen and I attribute that to the early frost.

MR. BEDFORD. This bears out the experience we had at the Experimental Farm.

We will now have Mr. McKay's paper on "Fruit Cultivation in the Territories."

MR. MCKAY. I may say that I am very glad to be here and to listen to the papers that have been read and the very interesting discussions that have taken place. I can very soon tell you what we have done in the line of fruit growing in the territories and leave you to draw your own conclusions. I may say, however, that the first perfect apple was grown on the farm this summer, but a visitor carried it off in his pocket, and I doubt very much if he would be able to find it afterwards.