Mr. BEADLE: Advise both keeping bees and grafting too, otherwise they may not get the pollen.

Mr. HALL: Are the bees a blessing or a curse?

Prof. CRAIG: I am sorry we have not that eminent defender of bees, Mr. Holtermann, here, who conducts the department in the *Horticulturist*. I think he could defend the bee much more ably than I can, but I have not one iota of hesitation in saying that the bee is a great blessing to the fruit grower. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. RACE: It depends somewhat on the end you are fooling with. (Laughter.)

Prof. CRAIG: I have even known cases when men fooled with the business end of a bee that it proved a blessing. (Laughter.) I know that there have been statements made to the effect that bees injure grapes, but I don't think they are well founded. I think in every case that has been investigated it was found that the grapes had already burst, and the bees simply visited the grapes to extract some grape sugar and grape juice; they are not provided with the kind of weapons to break the skins.

Mr. GEORGE BLAKE: What benefit to the fruit growers is this cross-fertilization? Would it be a benefit to the apple grown from this blossom, or would you get the benefit from the offspring raised from the seed?

Prof. CRAIG: Well fertilized apple blossoms mean usually well developed apples. In case the fruit did not set of itself this year, then you would get the benefit this year, but where your apples fruit freely then there is no necessity for further fertilization. I may say that no actual change takes place in the product of this year—that is, the fruit is not modified to any extent by the pollen which may be carried from another tree.

Mr. BLAKE: It seems to me this is splitting hairs. It does not benefit us fruit growers. Now the practical benefits to fruit men I want to see brought out clearly. In raising fruit we have got to go back to the grafting system; we cannot depend on that fertilized offspring, and we lose the benefit of this cross-fertilization.

Prof. CRAIG: No, sir; allow me to explain. If you want to get a new variety it must be done through cross-fertilization; if you want to multiply that variety it is done through grafting or budding.

Mr. BLAKE: As practical fruit raisers we do not want to raise new varieties; we want to get the benefit of cross-fertilization in the present crop of apples. Does it do us any good?

Prof. CRAIG: Certainly, in a case where a variety has not sufficient pollen.

Mr. BLAKE: Our orchards are deteriorating and our fruits are not what they used to be, so if we can benefit the present generation I shall be glad. I have been in the fruit business for years. I have made a great many mistakes. If I had had the experience I have to-day I might have been thousands of dollars in pocket. My first mistake was to go into too many varieties. I have been grafting and budding and experimenting all my life. If I had just gone into two or three main varieties I would have been very successful, but I have not made it a very paying business.

The SECRETARY: Have you not some varieties that do not bear very well?

Mr. BLAKE: Yes.

The SECRETARY: Mr. Craig has explained that if you want them to bear you should plant some other variety near them.

Mr. BLAKE: If I had gone into Kings and Baldwins thirty years ago I would have been independent to-day.

Mr. SHORT (Calgary): I would like to ask Prof. Craig if he has run across any varieties of apples, pear, plum or cherry that we will grow in Southern Alberta, south of Calgary, in a dry section where we have to irrigate.

Prof. CRAIG: We have had no success in any portion of the North-West Territories in growing apples. I have had one specimen sent from Prince Albert last year—a specimen of Whitney Crab—which in that section was considered a great curiosity. I know