

Undersized Baldwin Apples

"A GREAT many orchards, especially those in which Baldwin apples are being grown, are producing undersized fruit," said Mr. Joseph Tweddle to an editorial representative of *The Horticulturist*. "The question," continued Mr. Tweddle, "is what is the cause? Several years ago I was handling 10 or 12 orchards on shares. For two or three years parts of them bore some fruit, which was off in color and small sized, while others produced fruit of normal size and fair color. The trees in all the orchards were sprayed in the same manner.

"I found that the orchards which were in cultivation during the winter of 1878 and 1879, when so many peach and plum orchards and vineyards were destroyed by root freezing, were the ones which bore the small sized off-colored fruit. Those which were in sod that winter escaped the root killing and bore medium sized well colored fruit. When I found this out I commenced heading in severely the orchards which were root killed, and they immediately responded by vigorous growth. In my opinion that is what is the matter with many poor orchards. I now grow crimson clover and rye and vetch, and after it has served its purpose as a winter cover it is plowed under for a supply of nitrogen and humus. Some kind of crop is sowed every year for this purpose.

A Plum and Cherry Disease

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Something has happened to many cherry and some plum trees in this section. The leaves turn yellow and have brown or blackish spots on them. They finally fall off. I understand it is a fungous disease that is the trouble. What is the remedy?—(E. C., Essex Co.

The fungous disease attacking the plum and cherry leaves is popularly known as the Shot Hole Fungus. It does considerable injury each year to the plum and cherry

trees of Ontario. If the trees are sprayed in the early season with Bordeaux mixture it will reduce the disease considerably.

Wanted—A Fruit Commissioner

THAT leading fruitmen feel strongly regarding the action of the Dominion Government in placing the fruit division under the supervision of the Dairy Commissioner is shown by many forcible letters and expressions of opinion on the subject which continue to reach *The Horticulturist*. Here are two:

A. E. Sherrington, manager Bruce Fruit Growers' Association: Owing to the vast importance of the fruit industry, I believe that it is absolutely necessary that it should have a commissioner of fruit, who shall be entirely separate and distinct from the dairy division and who shall have entire charge of the fruit branch of the Dominion department of agriculture. It is important that we shall have a fruit commissioner through whom we will be able to come in direct touch with the Minister of Agriculture, which is impossible at present, owing to its being necessary for the chief of the fruit division to consult with the dairy commissioner in regard to all matters concerning the fruit industry. We should push this matter until our desires are complied with.

D. Johnson, president and manager Forest Fruit Growers' Association: The action of the Dominion Minister of Agriculture in placing the chief of the fruit division under the control of the dairy commissioner places the former in an awkward position. It seems to me that if the chief of the fruit division was brought in direct contact with the minister he would be able to do more for the advancement of the fruit industry, which is in a discouraged condition. The large quantities of fruit which go to waste every year show the great need of something being done to improve the fruit industry.