

some very nice samples of apples which the Archbishop of Rupert's Land had sent up from Winnipeg, and he gave the details of how many apples he had to each tree, varying from 5 to 55 apples on the tree. This surprised me very much, but on my return I spent a day in Winnipeg to see how it was that apples had been so successfully grown at this point. On visiting the Archbishop's garden I found it also on the banks of the Red River, very exceptionally sheltered with woods on the north and west sides. It also was enclosed with a high board fence and when I came to examine the trees, I found that the fruit had all been borne below the snow line—that is, that the wood all above the snow line had been killed, and the apples had all been matured within about three feet of the ground. The trees had made a rapid new growth above where the fruit had been, but the results satisfied me notwithstanding fruit had been grown there and ripened under those exceptional conditions, that as a general thing people could not grow these varieties of apples under ordinary conditions of exposure. I thought this statement was needed in view of the statement I made last year, and which seemed to be contradicted by the reports in the newspapers.

Mr. CASTON: Were those dwarf trees?

Mr. SAUNDERS: They were dwarf, but I do not think they were what we call dwarfs. They were dwarfed by the weather. We have had similar experience to that in Brandon, as far as dwarfing the trees is concerned, but we have not matured any fruit on the trees. Every year for ten years they have been killed down to within two or three feet of the ground. In this case of the Archbishop's the tree had carried the buds through and matured the fruit the following year, but all the fruit buds were below the snow line, and the high board fence would help to collect the snow. There would have been three or four feet of snow in that garden in the winter; and practically it does not do away or lead one to modify the general statement that such fruits cannot be grown in that country under ordinary conditions. The further remarks I wanted to make relate to the new hybrid fruits suitable for growing in the North-West. I have still one more cross to bring to your notice, and that is the cross between the Sand Cherry and one of the wild American plums known as Colonel Wilder. The Sand Cherry most of you know well, and you will observe that this fruit, which is intermediate in the character of its foliage between the Sand Cherry and the plum, is also intermediate in size between those two fruits. The quality of the hybrid is much better than the Sand Cherry, and it may possibly be a useful fruit for the North-West. At any rate it is interesting as a scientific development of the work of cross-fertilizing, and I believe it is likely to stand the climate of the country and be useful to the people. (Applause.)

Mr. SHEPPARD: You mentioned that in the Archbishop's garden the fruit is borne upon the lower branches that were covered with snow. Has any attempt been made, such as Mr. Smart in New Brunswick carried on for many years with plums there? He raised plums, and laid the trees down over winter—cut the roots on one side and then laid them down and fastened the trees to the ground, and they were covered with snow the whole winter. In that way he preserved the fruit buds and raised large crops of plums. Has that ever been tried in Manitoba on the apples?

Dr. SAUNDERS: Not that I know of anywhere. The orchard of Mr. Stevenson is the only orchard I have seen where fruit has been borne above the snow line, and that success is no doubt attributable to the remarkable shelter which he has. I remember visiting Peter Gideon, lately deceased, several years ago. His orchard is on Lake Montauk, not a very long way south of Brandon, and I saw some peaches there which he had succeeded in raising by adopting that method. He pulled me one off to try, and I had a chance to eat it while I was there, and it was a very well-ripened and good-flavored peach which he had succeeded in producing by adopting that plan; but we have never tried the experiment on