

especially where the barbarous custom of allowing cattle to run at large has been done away with, should not be one continuous park, with the borders growing up with a great variety of beautiful native trees and shrubs, among which our native wild flowers might be encouraged to grow.

SPRAYING FOR CURCULIO.

DR. CLARENCE WEED, of Ohio, has, during the last season, been making further experiments with Paris green for the curculio, and he is satisfied that it is a more complete preventive of injury than jarring the trees. He experimented upon an orchard of some 900 trees, jarring the trees in one-half the orchard in the usual way, and spraying the other half with poison, in the proportion of four ounces to fifty gallons of water. The first application was made immediately after the blossoms fell, and, on account of successive rains, repeated three or four times. On examination, in the month of July, not over three per cent. of the sprayed fruit was stung, while about four per cent. of the fruit on the jarred trees was injured. A heavy crop of plums was harvested on both parts of the orchard, but the spraying was much less expensive than the jarring, and more effective.

SPRAYING FOR LEAF BLIGHT OF THE PEAR.

B. D. H., in the *Garden and Forest*, says that a large pear orchard, of 1,200 trees, was sprayed early in the season with carbonate of copper, and, as a result, the trees did not drop the foliage as many other trees did which were not sprayed, and the quality of the fruit was so much superior that the owner secured an unbroken list of first premiums at the state fair. We hope our readers will give this fungicide a thorough trial next spring, beginning very early, even before the blossoming period, with the first application,

in order that the results may be clearly proved to the satisfaction of all. The writer has applied the copper carbonate both in suspension and dissolved in ammonia; on Flemish Beauty pear trees, Northern Spy apple trees and Bartlett pear trees, but not until the fruit was nearly the size of hickory nuts; and this was not a fair test. Still the results seemed to show in favor of those trees that were so treated, both in the brightness of the foliage and in the clearness of the fruit. We sincerely hope that it will prove a complete remedy for apple scab and leaf blight, the two most serious discouragements which the Canadian fruit grower has now to face.

NAMING COUNTRY ROADS.

IN Contra Costa county, California, a plan has been adopted for numbering country houses. It is called the "ten block system" and was originated by Mr. A. L. Bancroft, who has sent us a full account of it. The plan contemplates the division of every mile of roadway into ten equal parts, each of these divisions to be numbered, and every house is to bear the number of the block in which it is situated. If there are more than one house in a block these are distinguished by letters. The roads are to have names, tastefully painted upon guide boards, and thus a traveller will be materially helped in finding a house to which he has been directed.

The idea of naming all our public roads with suitable names painted on guide posts at the cross roads is surely most commendable, and this much might easily be carried out, even if our authorities are not prepared to follow out the plan in its details. Then, if every homestead were named by the owner, and the name placed at some prominent corner, the interest of a drive through the country would be much heightened, and great convenience afforded to strangers.

Open Letters

THE GOVERNOR WOOD CHERRY.

SIR,—I see in the July number of the *Horticulturist* a print of the Governor Wood cherry, and you speak of it as a profitable variety. I find it an excellent cherry, but we can't keep off the cherry birds or waxwings as some call them. They come on here in flocks as soon as the fruit begin to color, about half its size, so that it is almost impossible to get a good cherry to eat. You

surely must not be troubled much with the pest at Maplehurst, or what method do you take to preserve the fruit from their ravages? We may keep on shooting them, in a short time after they are as thick as ever. They are so bold they will actually come and pick the cherries on the same trees with us. I find the Rockport Biggareau a very fine, solid cherry, and at the time of their ripening we are not troubled with the birds.—W. HICK, *Goderich, Ont.*