Pruning in Orchard of T. W. Palmer, Victoria, B.C.

guishes it from all other varieties, that is its adaptability to soils and location. Its demands for soil conditions are few compared with those of some of the other varieties. If one were to plant Bartletts as their chief crop, then Keiffer, Duchess, Anjou and the Bosc for winter fruit, they would have a good combination.

The pear is not very exacting as to soil conditions. There is, however, one very important point in selecting a location. Choose a soil that will produce a slow-growing tree. This is a very essential factor in pear growing. Neglect to attend to it has often spelled disaster for pear growers. The pear tree should be a slow growing tree. The pear tree that grows rapidly is very tender. This condition is conducive to pear blight. On the other hand, the slow, sturdy growing tree often wards off attacks of this disease, and is sure to put up a stronger fight for existence.

The pruning of the tree is another essential factor in the successful pear business. The trees should be headed low, with an open centre. Some growers make it a practice to cut back each year's growth after the tree has come into the bearing stage of life. By following out this method they argue that they can obtain the fruit near the centre of the tree. One must remember that in all pruning operations, where severe pruning is practiced, it encourages strong wood growth. This naturally increases the amount of labor each year for the pruning of the orchard. Some of the varieties, such as the Anjou and the Bosc, are spreading in their natural growth. If they are planted closer than twenty-three feet they are apt to crowd, which will necessitate unnecessary pruning. The other varieties are more upright in their growth and consequently can be put close together. The distance of planting is governed by the nature of the soil and variety.

A Last Season's Test of Soluble Sulpher

J. G. Mitchell, Clarksburg, Ont.

SOME seven years ago I was induced to experiment with what at that time was considered a new spray, lime sulphur. As soon as I heard of this spray, I felt confident that it should soon do away with the troublesome bordeaux mixture. The professors at Guelph said that it was not safe to use as a summer spray, and practically forbade its use, but the splendid results obtained with lime sulphur over the old spray were so pronounced that the following season it was strongly recommended by growers and professors, and became the standard as a fungicide.

However, growers have been asking and hoping that some more convenient way of using the sulphur spray would be devised and we now have this in the latest form called "Soluble Sulphur." In my opinion it is just as much superior to lime sulphur solution as the latter is to the old bordeaux spray.

In the way of convenience there is no comparison. I always used to dread the loading and unloading of the heavy six hundred pound barrels of lime sulphur, and the men would nearly go on strike when asked to handle it. Last year I got the spraying done for about half what it cost the previous year. I used two barrels of the lime sulphur solution and soluble sulphur for the rest of the spraying. As soon as we used the first hundred pounds of soluble sulphur, I could see there was no use asking the men to go back to the old spray. We had absolutely no trouble with nozzles clogging and never had a stoppage from the time we commenced using soluble sulphur.

Of course I insisted on the spray tank being cleaned out every night, all the water being strained, and a screen kept over the feed pipe to the pump. We filled the spray tank about half full of water, then put in our soluble sulphur, eight to ten pounds to forty gallons. This was well agitated by the time the tank was filled. We put this spray on just as the buds were bursting, in fact on some trees the blossoms were nearly open. In the summer spray we used from one to two pounds to forty gallons of water, putting the soluble sulphur in when the spray tank was half full of water, and adding arsenate of lead last, two and a half pounds to forty gallons. Doing it in this way there is absolutely no trouble. Where aphis appeared in our orchards we used nearly two pounds of soluble sulphur to forty gallons for summer spray, and only about one pound in orchards where there was no aphis. Scab and fungi were controlled perfectly in all our orchards. I do not consider it necessary to use the mixture stronger than one and a half pounds to forty gallons, except for aphis.

Our McIntosh Red apples were absolutely clean and beautifully colored; ninety-nine apples out of every hundred went into number one boxes. The Greenings were just as nice, having a lovely bright glossy appearance. If these varieties come out in this way there is no need to worry about others. We also had good results in fighting aphis, having practically no loss from this pest, while in 1912, when we used lime sulphur, our loss was well up to two thousand dollars.

It is now a recognized fact that soluble sulphur is bound to take the place of the old material. It is just as efficient as a fungicide, if not better, than lime sulphur, and is so much more convenient that every grower should be made thoroughly acquainted with it.

Varieties of Currants and Gooseberries*

L. B. Henry, B.S.A., Winona, Ont.

The best varieties of black currants are Naples, Champion, and Victoria. The Naples is a strong, upright, vigorous bush, healthy and very productive, and the berry is large, of good quality, and borne on short clusters. It is probably the most widely planted in Ontario.

The Champion is a very good variety. The bush does not become as large as the Naples, but it is productive and quite hardy. The fruit does not ripen uniformly, and is five days to a week later than the former variety. Victoria is vigorous and hardy, but from my experience is not as productive as Naples or Champion.

There are many varieties of red currants. A few of the best ones are Cherry, Fay, Prince Albert, Chatauqua, Perfection, and Raby Castle. The Cherry is the principal red currant grown in southern Ontario for commercial purposes. The berry is large and the bunch short and compact, and the bush very productive.

Fay's Prolific has been widely advertised as superior to the Cherry, but is very similar in fruit and productiveness, the bunch being a little longer, but loose towards the base.

The bush of the Prince Albert is a

*Extract from an address delivered at the last annual convention of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association.