

cation of potash; but I believe that is not substantiated. Still in my own orchard I use wood ashes very freely, and I do not think there is any orchard in the section that has had less yellows. True, we have had to pull out trees every year to keep our orchard free from that disease, still I think there has been less yellows in my peach orchard from the fact that we apply wood ashes liberally to these trees. That substantiates to a certain extent the point that has been made, that if we knew just what the trees required we might in the case of many trees protect those trees by feeding them properly. In regard to the remark of one of the members that the plum tree is subject to fungus when highly manured, I would say that it was growing so fast that the young growth of wood was tender, and hence more subject to the spores.

Mr. MORRIS: While it is necessary to feed the trees and protect the healthy growth, to prevent those diseases that food needs to be balanced. Vegetable manure—barnyard manure may cause such a growth, an unhealthy growth; particularly if the trees are kept cultivated, and that growth made late in the season. In such case, if pears you will always see blight. There is nothing more conducive to blight than to manure your pear trees with barnyard manure and bring them on late. To my mind the best manure for trees in almost any soil—of course you can vary according to the soil—would be a proportion of barnyard manure, wood ashes, and bone dust. I think you would get in those three all that is required. To grow trees with ashes alone, you do not get the strong growth you do with the manure; but it is a healthy growth of wood, is more solid, and a tree grown with lime and wood ashes is much healthier than one grown with wood ashes alone.

The SECRETARY: You use those elements largely yourself in your nursery?

Mr. MORRIS: Yes. Unless you have healthy wood your trees will be subject to those diseases that are being discussed.

Mr. BLANCHARD: Would you use those elements all together?

Mr. MORRIS: Yes.

Prof. CRAIG: This matter of getting healthy trees and feeding the soil is a very complicated one. It is necessary to get the trees in the best condition, and to get the trees least liable to these diseases. After that we must come down to spraying. It is proved it is a practicable remedy. It can be applied with paying results to every man who will apply it intelligently and at the right time. It has been pointed out the spray must be put on in a fine film—that is, the protection is given by giving this coating. The way to get that is to put on a fine spray. In spraying we must use a nozzle which will put the spray on in a finely-divided condition, and cover the leaf and the fruit and the whole thing completely. Two nozzles which I have found give me very good results are the Vermorel Improved and the Nixon.

Mr. HUNTER: If we were to accomplish that—cover up the leaf so completely that nothing would reach it—that would kill the whole business. The leaf is the lung of the plant, and must take in air.

Prof. CRAIG: The thickness of the covering on the side would be so thin that it would not interfere with the breathing.

Mr. JAMES: The breathing is chiefly on the under side of the leaf.

ACTS RELATING TO THE SPREAD OF DISEASES.

The SECRETARY: I have wanted to move a committee to revise the Act with regard to the spread of diseases of trees. In my opinion the present Act is very imperfect indeed, and some proposals were made last year in the Niagara District for a change in the Act, but those were not fully approved of, and the Minister of Agriculture did not think they were just in the right shape to have them brought before the House, and he suggested that we should consider the matter here. It is the duty of every man who has black knot in his place to cut down the trees. That is very well if he will do it. Then

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