

Professor Craig—I quite agree with that; I think we all do. But, with all due deference to Father Labelle, I should regard it as a dangerous practice to raise two crops on the same ground. The best cultivators in Ontario find that they cannot do it satisfactorily and profitably. In every locality where we have sufficient moisture, with good manuring, we can plant trees and grow grass; but to expect our farmers to practise it would, I think, be a little dangerous at the present time, when we are starting on an era which, I hope, will lead to better fruit-growing. As to spraying, it seems to me that in many cases prejudice is holding fruit-growers and farmers back from practising it. It should be looked at from an impartial standpoint. If any of you are looking at it from a prejudiced and warped standpoint, you should get out of that condition, and give it a fair trial for a year. If you once do the work thoroughly, I have not the shadow of a doubt but it will be continued.

Mr. J. M. Fisk—Have you not found that Fameuse is the most difficult apple to treat?

Professor Craig—There is no doubt that in Quebec the Fameuse is the most difficult apple to grow free of spot.

Mr. Fisk—What about the Rhode Island Greening?

Professor Craig—If grown in good, heavy soil, it does not spot so much.

Mr. Barnard—The question of moisture in the soil is a very important one, not only as regards fruit trees and grass, but crops of all kinds. I have made a study of reports that have been issued lately. Professor Wagner, of Darmstadt, has made experiments on the cultivation of potatoes and other plants, and he has photographed the result, with a view to finding out how far small rootlets would go. I happen to have with me a reproduction of some of these photographs, natural size, and if it is the pleasure of the meeting, I will bring them to-morrow, and they will explain better the question of moisture. Professor Craig may be right in what he has stated; but in France a professor has shown, for the last seven or eight years, that a crop of potatoes can be doubled and quadrupled by making a choice in the varieties.

The President—How would it do to take up the question when we come to the subjects for discussion?

Mr. Barnard—I will be very happy to leave it to you, but I have to leave to-morrow night.

The President—We will finish the question of spraying now.

Professor Craig—There is no doubt that orchard trees, and especially nursery trees, grow much healthier, and are less liable to disease, when grown on the virgin soil. In order to get good, strong nursery trees, the nurseryman has to go out of the old orchard places.

Mr. Roy—By applying wood ashes on virgin soil you have no spot disease.

The President—Will the fact that the tree is growing on virgin soil, and the application of wood ashes, prevent spot?

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