

CONCLUSIONS.

The results derived from the past season's work confirm the previous year's experiments. Although the oil used at the bud-movement and tight-cluster periods did not injure the buds or retard growth, it was demonstrated that the applications were not of sufficient strength to be of any material advantage in controlling red mite. It may be that oil alone at this stage would be efficacious, but this would need to be tested. Oil, 1-30, used alone in advanced pink gave very satisfactory results. At all stages of bud-development one application of lime-sulphur at any of the strengths used was of no practical value in controlling red mite. The writer is of the opinion that the buds will stand lime-sulphur a good deal stronger in all stages of development, and possibly something may be gained by using it at increased strengths.

In regard to black-spot control the qualities of bordeaux were outstanding, while on the other hand there can be no question that lime-sulphur produces the brightest and cleanest-skinned fruit.

There is nothing to be gained by using bordeaux and oil on the same day, or even oil alone, when growth is beyond the tight-cluster stage. To apply oil after this period of development is decidedly too dangerous and has nothing to recommend it. Although the bordeaux and oil controlled black-spot fairly well in the pink, it russeted the fruit to such an extent as to render it very unsightly for market, and as a result makes this combination when applied at that stage or later of little or no practical value.

Expeditionary Force Scholarships.—Among the recipients of scholarships awarded in England to members of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force is Captain W. S. Hill, B.Sc.Ag., formerly Plant-breeder in the Department of Agriculture, who will study agriculture at the Imperial College of Science, London, and Wye Agricultural College, Kent. A scholarship has also been awarded to Sergeant W. H. Udy, of the Chemistry Section of the Department, to study agricultural science at King's College, London.

Farm-manure Experiment with Onions.—In the horticultural section at Ruakura Farm of Instruction during the past season an experiment was conducted on various kinds of farm manure with onions. Four plots, each 14 yards by 8 yards, were dressed in April, 1918, as follows: (1) Horse-manure, (2) fowl-manure, (3) pig-manure, (4) cow-manure—each at the rate of 15 tons per acre. The plots were immediately dug under and left until the middle of July, when they were lightly forked over. In the middle of August the onions (Straw-coloured Spanish) were transplanted into the plots, basic super at the rate of 2 cwt. per acre being applied in each case at the same time. The crop was harvested in the middle of February, when the following yields were recorded: Pig-manure plot, 832 lb.; fowl-manure plot, 742 lb.; horse-manure plot, 647 lb.; cow-manure plot, 588 lb. The manure was from animals fed under good average New Zealand conditions.