not counted there would have been under 1 per cent. of the trees infected.

Plot C.—This plot was practically clean, only about ¾ per cent. of the trees showing red-mite-egg infection.

It will be observed that plots A and C were sprayed once in April for woolly aphis, but in my opinion this would have little or no beneficial result in preventing the laying of winter eggs, as the majority of them were on the trees before this spray was applied.

CONCLUSIONS.

The experiment clearly demonstrated that summer spraying for red mite is essential in addition to the spring sprays used. Although three sprayings towards the end of January, at an interval of six to eight days, controlled the mite and prevented the laying of what are known as winter eggs, I am of the opinion that three similar applications in October before the mite has a chance to lay its summer eggs on the foliage would prove efficient and eradicate the mite. If these earlier sprayings are given it is highly essential that the first should be commenced soon after the first mites hatch from the winter eggs, and certainly before they are fully grown and commence laying their summer eggs. However, this phase of the question is being thoroughly tested at the Department's horticultural stations this spring.

Lime-sulphur is as effective as Blackleaf 40 as a summer spray for red mite, but where the dual control of red mite and woolly aphis is required Blackleaf 40 should be used. Although the three sprayings on block B with this nicotine preparation in January were expensive, they were highly effective against woolly aphis as well as red mite, whereas it was necessary to treat woolly aphis separately in plot C.

While this experiment was primarily carried out on nursery stock for the benefit of nurserymen, the result obtained is equally applicable to fruit-trees in established orchards.

The cultivation of the land is the basis of national strength and prosperity.—*David Lloyd George.*

Horse Bot-flies.—A Wanganui correspondent states that he finds he can keep bots off his horses by dabbing a little sheep-dip and oil —half-and-half—on the fore legs every day or two; also that if any eggs are on the horse this application kills them.

Calculi from Animals.—Several interesting specimens of calculi (stone-like concretions) from domestic animals have been recently examined at the Chemical Laboratory. A spherical brassy calculus from the urethra of a ram in the Wairarapa district was found to be merely calcium carbonate. A specimen of renal calculus from sheep at Berwick, Otago, was entirely organic, and consisted largely of uric acid and urates. As calculus is stated to be a somewhat frequent affection of the sheep on this farm, a dietetic origin of the trouble may be presumed.—*B. C. Aston.*