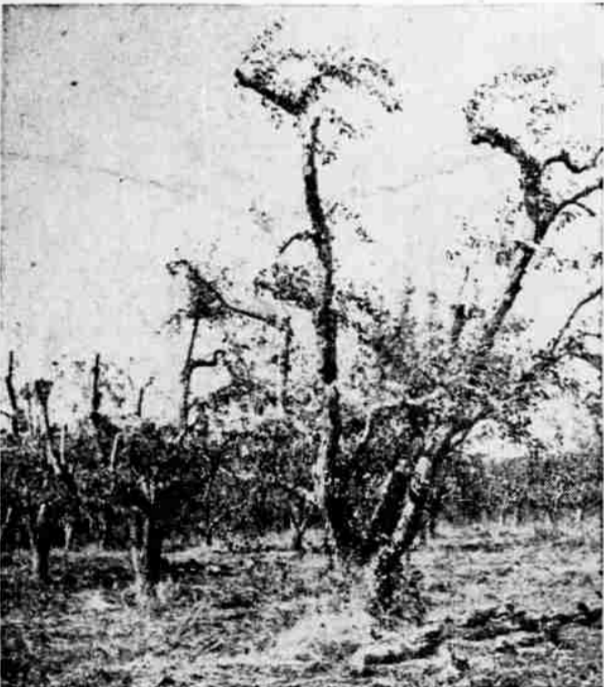


# Blight Infected Limbs Should Be Removed From Trees As Soon As Harvest Is Complete



**DISEASED TREE**—B. A. Montgomery points with saw to a freshly cut portion of a bartlett pear tree affected by blight. This is the first time in several years blight has struck this orchard. This portion of the orchard was not treated with copper spray during blossom season.



**BAD YEAR**—This orchard was typical of many in Jackson county during the 1930s when blight got out of control. Note the extent to which limbs had to be cut off. More than 1,000 acres of trees had to be removed.



**CUTTING LIMB**—Removing blight infected limb of a bartlett pear tree with shears is demonstrated by B. A. Montgomery. In his hip pocket is a bottle of mercuric cyanide and bichloride of mercury. This solution is used in disinfecting tools and cut in wood.

Dead, discolored leaves, brown cankers and scarred fruit tree trunks are some of the signs which mark the path of blight. Home owner, as well as orchardists should remove blight infected limbs from their pear trees as soon as the crop is harvested, according to C. B. Cordy, county horticulture agent.

**Scattering of Disease**  
A greater than usual scattering of blight has been apparent throughout the county this year, he said. Though the countywide problem is not yet regarded as extreme, a few orchards have been severely infected.

A common blight symptom is the appearance of dead leaves which fail to fall from the tree. Another symptom is a brown canker margin, which is noticeable in close examination.

Blight frequently occurs in blossoms and is easily spread to other parts of the tree or to other trees by wind and insects, the county agent explained. This is one reason why it is equally important for home owners to treat their individual trees as for commercial fruit growers to rid their orchards of blight.

**Grows in Wounds**  
The infection takes hold in wounds in the fruit and trees. These wounds may be caused by hail, severe wind or mechanical injury.

There are two control methods which must be used jointly to be effective, he said. They consist of applying copper spray during blossom season, then cutting out the infected portion of the tree after harvest is complete.

Copper spray was developed in the 1920s by F. C. Reimer, 436 North Holly st., then superintendent of the Southern Oregon Experiment station.

**Spray Developed**  
Reimer used the spray in the Redskin and Modoc orchards in the Table Rock area. It effectively curbed the disease, but the great quantity of copper in the spray caused rust to develop on the fruit.

Oregon abandoned use of copper spray, but California growers began experimenting with it a few years later. It was found that a lesser amount of copper could be used without materially reducing the spray's effectiveness or causing excessive rust. Oregon growers further developed the new formula and Jackson county became the center

of blight control experiments. Since blight may spread beyond the visible canker margin at this season, it is necessary to cut the limb six to eight inches below the margin, Cordy said.

**Disinfect Tools**  
Cutting through the canker will result in a spread of blight to other limbs by the cutting tool unless the tool is disinfected. After each cut, the tool should be treated with a combination of mercuric cyanide (another product of Reimer's experiments) and bi-chloride of mercury. This combination will kill bacteria on both the shears and the wood. One 7 1/2 grain tablet of each chemical to one-half pint water is the recommended formula. Both mercuric cyanide and bi-chloride of mercury are available in drug stores, Cordy said.

The chemical solution is deadly poison, he emphasized, and reacts to most metals. It should be kept in a glass container while being used. Any leftover solution should be destroyed.

The solution should be applied by sponge or cloth both on the cut in the wood and the cutting tool. The chemicals may not have a detrimental effect on hands, but the county agent advises washing hands thoroughly after applying the solution.

**Bad Blight Years**  
Twenty years ago Jackson county was considered one of the northwest's worst blight areas, according to Cordy. "It was a serious problem and more than 1,000 acres of trees were removed as a result. However, the entire community — orchardists and home owners alike—joined in the battle against blight. We didn't completely eradicate the disease, but we did reduce it to a great extent," he said.

Pears aren't the only plant affected by blight. It also strikes apples and ornamental plants, including hawthorne, pyracantha and cotoneaster. In all cases, Cordy said, the treatments are the same—cut out the infected portion and apply copper spray at blossom time.

Some other areas have been less successful in reducing blight than Jackson county has been, he commented. "This is because they have relied on application of copper spray without stressing the importance of removing all possible blight infections. Experience has taught us spray is not enough. The generally good condition of our trees proves that it also pays to cut out the infections wherever they appear and as soon as possible after they are observed."

**Appeal Planned in Brink's Conviction**  
Boston — (U.P.) — Chief defense counsel Paul T. Smith said Saturday he would appeal the conviction of eight men found guilty of looting Brink's Inc. of \$1,218,211 six years ago in the nation's greatest cash robbery.

The men, Joseph McGinnis, Anthony Pino, Vincent J. Costa, Adolph (Jazz) Maffie, Michael V. Geagan, James I. Faherty, Thomas F. Richardson and Henry Baker, will be sentenced this week to possible life terms.

Superior Judge Felix Forte set Tuesday as a tentative sentencing date. A Suffolk county jury found the eight guilty at 1:45 a.m. EDT Saturday after three hours and 40 minutes of deliberation. The nine-week trial, which included more than a million words of testimony, was the longest in Massachusetts court history.

**Blight Scar**—This is an example of the permanent mark blight leaves on trees. The disease was carried to the main trunk of this tree several years ago by a "root sucker." Photo shows that a portion of the trunk near the ground was chopped out. Outer surface of the trunk was peeled off for an approximate distance of 20 inches.



**DISINFECTING TOOLS**—B. A. Montgomery is shown using a sponge to disinfect knife and shears after removing blight infected portions of trees. After each cut the tools and cut in wood should be disinfected with a sponge or cloth saturated with a combination of mercuric cyanide and bichloride of mercury.

Washington — (U.P.) — T. Coleman Andrews, Independent candidate for president, charged Saturday that "the income tax is thoroughly un-American."

Chicago — (U.P.) — A mile-long, hour-long parade honoring the nation's dairy farmers opened the fourth International Dairy Show Saturday.

**Crews Uncover Trees 15,000 Years Old**  
Jefferson, Iowa — (U.P.) — A grove of trees, which last bloomed about 15,000 years ago, was unearthed by a highway construction crew Friday.

Several hundred trees in near-natural condition were found 35 feet below the earth surface near here. Geologists said the trees, some of which ranged 10 feet

Lansing, Mich. — (U.P.) — U. S. Sen. William F. Knowland told a Republican club Friday night the Nov. 6 election may be so close that Michigan's 20 electoral votes could determine the outcome.

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