

growers to confer with the Entomologist of the United States Department of Agriculture and to consider this matter, with the object of introducing a Bill into Congress, I asked the question distinctly of the nurserymen and entomologists there, if there was any single instance that had been put on record of the San José Scale having been spread by means of shipments of fruit, and was told that there was not. There is not a single instance known where infestation has taken place from fruit, and I cannot see how such a thing is in the least degree likely.

Q. You have done everything possible to have this pest stamped out?

A. I think so, and the British Columbia and Ontario Governments have also adopted drastic measures with the same object in view.

Q. There are lots of inspectors with us?

A. And they are working well, I know, for I am in correspondence with nearly all of them. Hardly a day passes that I do not get specimens sent in from some of the inspectors in Ontario for examination. Mr. Fisher, Mr. Orr, Mr. Bennett, and others, are doing everything in their power to make the Ontario Act effective and to learn all that is to be known about the San José and other allied scale insects.

*By Mr. McMillan :*

Q. I should have thought that the greatest danger in regard to pears and apples would be that the scale would be on the short stems attached to them?

A. The stems dry up very quickly. As a matter of fact, although they are frequently thick on the base or stem end of the pear I do not remember seeing them on the stem; of course they could be there, but I do not remember seeing them there.

*By the Chairman :*

Q. Have the States not legislated against each other on this subject?

A. Undoubtedly. Special Acts have been passed in many of the States, and others have legislation now under consideration. Only yesterday I received the new Act passed in New Jersey.

*By Mr. McGregor :*

Q. New Jersey is the worst State in the United States?

A. They have done so much good work under their active entomologist, Dr. Smith, that they are rapidly becoming one of the best States in the United States. The pest is getting out of the orchards in New Jersey into the forest trees, and that is another point of the many details I did not give in regard to this dangerous insect, it will attack almost every known woody shrub or tree. Every plant which has a woody stem this insect will attack, and if it once gets into our forests it will be simply a matter, then, of our having to trust to nature for its extermination, and nature, although usually sure, is sometimes slow in carrying out her work. We find in all branches of natural history where injurious species are studied that probably some remedy would be forthcoming in time, but as all our cultivated crops are grown under artificial conditions we must make use of artificial measures to protect our crops until such time as nature produces a remedy for those which increase unduly in numbers.

Q. If parties could not get Good's Potash Soap, would you advise the use of sulphur and common soap?