

actually seen the ravages of the scale of the seriousness of the situation. These men are inclined to minimize the danger and are slow about taking preventive measures. They may thus allow the scale to gain a foothold, after which it is almost impossible to eradicate it.

"In 1897, when the department of agriculture became aware that the scale was being imported in nursery stock received from the States, steps were taken to induce the Dominion Government to prohibit the importation of stock from the infested districts. Knowing that the scale had already been located at several places in Ontario, an act was passed called the San Jose scale act. This act provided for the appointment of inspectors, and wherever the scale was found the trees were destroyed.

ACT WAS PASSED TOO LATE.

"It was thought at this time that in a few months all the scale in the fruit growing sections could be stamped out by burning the trees. When the act was passed the scale had been located at Kingsville and at Van Horne, a small postoffice near Chatham, and also in the section near Burlington. Unfortunately the act was passed about three years too late, as the scale had become established. The first imported trees had stood so long that they had become badly infested and the scale had spread so far and so rapidly that in none of these places has it been possible to entirely stamp it out. I would like to emphasize the fact that in no cases where the scale has become thoroughly established have the people been able to eradicate it. All the infested trees have at times apparently been destroyed, but sooner or later the scale has cropped up in some unexpected place.

"The destruction of the trees was continued for two years, but the government realized that it could not hope to stamp it out and called in the inspectors and started a series of experiments with the object of

finding some remedy for the destruction of the scale. These experiments have been carried on to a greater or lesser degree in the infested districts and remedies have been found which if properly applied will help keep the scale in check. In some sections, where the scale was not very thoroughly established, they appear to have entirely stamped it out.

NO NEW OUTBREAKS.

"In the early days of this fight over 100 places were found, where the scale had started through the distribution of nursery stock, that were treated in time to destroy the scale. In none of these places has the scale since been found. One remarkable fact remains that during the last two years no new outbreaks of the scale have been found. This goes to show that the work done by the inspectors in these early years was very thorough.

"Scale has been found more or less all through the chief fruit growing districts of Ontario, but it has made some remarkable skips, leaving some townships so free from it that the people cannot yet be brought to realize that in some districts of Ontario thousands and thousands of trees have been destroyed by the scale. Scale has been found all along the fruit belt skirting Lake Ontario from Toronto to the Niagara frontier, where the scale is at its worst, getting lighter and lighter, with some skips, until after leaving Clarkson. No more scale is known to exist east of that point, although scale has been found in young trees at several points as far east as Belleville. In these last cases it has been stamped out. In the western fruit growing sections, quite badly infested sections have become established at Kingsville, Rondeau, Chatham and Van Horn.

"The lime-sulphur wash is the most popular of all the remedies on trial. It is three years since it was first introduced into

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