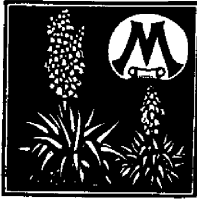


PLUM KNOT ACT IN NEW YORK STATE.



R. S. D. WILLARD, who was appointed by the New York Horticultural Society to draft a bill for the destruction of black knot, sends a copy of the Act, which has now passed the Assembly, and will become law in New York State. We have not room here to give it in full, but will give an outline of it.

Section 1 makes it unlawful for any person knowingly to keep on his place any plum or cherry trees affected with black knot, and makes it allowable for any one to enter upon his premises and destroy the affected part, or parts, of any tree.

Section 2 provides that the mayor of any town or city where such disease exists, may appoint three competent freeholders as commissioners, and section 4 makes it the duty of such commissioners, or any one of them, with or without complaint, as soon as it comes to notice that the disease black knot exists, or is supposed to exist, within the limits of any town or city, to examine without delay the trees supposed to be affected, and, if the disease is found to exist, to place distinguishing marks upon the affected parts, or, in case the commissioner or commissioners judge that any tree should be entirely removed, they must girdle such tree and give a written notice to the owner containing a statement of the facts, with the order to effectually remove and destroy by fire the part, or parts, of such trees so marked, and entirely destroy every tree which has been girdled, within ten days from the date of the notice above required, such order to be signed by the three commissioners, or by any two of them.

Section 5 provides that whenever any person refuses to comply with the order, the commissioners are to carry out the directions of the order and remove and destroy by fire every tree, or part of a tree, so girdled or marked, the expense to be charged to the town or city.

Section 6 specifies the penalty for not carrying out the order. The person neglecting or refusing to carry out the order, shall be guilty of misdemeanor, and be punished by a fine not exceeding \$50, or by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding fifteen days, or both, in the discretion of the Court, and any Justice of Peace of the town or city in which the offence shall be committed shall have jurisdiction thereof, and all the fines shall be turned over to the mayor of said town or city, to be placed by him in the contingent fund of said town or city.

Section 7 allows the commissioners \$2 a day for their services, in addition to all other reasonable charges or disbursements.

The Act is to take effect immediately.

As before stated, our own Act on Plum Knot is useless, and must be remodelled. Let everyone come to our next meeting fully prepared to discuss this important subject.