

Canada carefully inspected for these winter webs, in which stage the insect is most easily distributed but also most readily destroyed. Over a million and a half plants were examined and nearly two hundred winter webs were found on French stock.

This inspection which, in the absence of the necessary legislation, was carried on with the voluntary co-operation of the nurserymen importing the stock, is being repeated, and during the present season which is now closing over three hundred webs, representing probably several hundred thousands of caterpillars, have been found in more than two million plants inspected.

With the co-operation of the Customs Department, of the U.S. Bureau of Entomology and of the New York State Department of Horticulture, the Division is advised of all shipments of European nursery stock, and these are inspected at the points of destination. So far as we can judge this careful inspection, in which we have been assisted by the Departments of Agriculture of the provinces concerned, has prevented the introduction of the moth in nursery stock, in which manner it was first introduced into this continent.

Owing to the absence of the parasitic insects which keep it in check in Europe, where it is common but only occasionally seriously injurious, it has spread with astonishing rapidity. Being carried chiefly by the prevailing winds it has spread northwards into Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine, and is now within a hundred miles of the Canadian frontier.

As a result of a thorough inspection of the infested region in Nova Scotia the writer is of the opinion that its control is possible by a thorough and systematic inspection and the destruction of all the winter webs, and that by prompt action the insect may be prevented from spreading into the forest and wild thickets. The caterpillars feed on hardwoods such as oak, maple, elm, ash, etc., in addition to

cultivated and wild fruits and thorn. Its establishment in the forests would render control impossible.

Circumstantial evidence supports two theories to explain its introduction into Nova Scotia: the chief means appear to be vessels trading between such ports as Bridgetown, Bear River, Digby, etc., and the port of Boston. One infestation could be explained only by the remarkable fact that the moths are carried across from Massachusetts to Yarmouth County, N.S., by the wind; this has been found to occur, but practically all the moths so carried are males.

This insect presents one of the most serious problems with which the Division of Entomology is and will be confronted. In the Eastern States it was allowed to assume large and uncontrollable proportions before action was taken, with the result that it soon spread over several thousand square miles, and now the only hope lies in the establishing of the parasites which are being imported from Europe, reared and released. Several species have become established, and it is hoped that by these means the insect will be ultimately controlled, by which time, however, it is safe to prophesy that it will have reached and crossed the Canadian frontier.

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#### NOTE.

ONTARIO'S NEW REGULATIONS. The Provincial Government of Ontario has announced several important changes in their timber policy. Ground rents have been increased to \$5.00 per mile. The stumpage dues on pine have been increased from \$1.00 per thousand feet to \$1.50. On square and waney timber the dues have been increased from \$20.00 per thousand cubic feet to \$50.00; the purpose of the regulation is to discourage this extravagant use of the timber. The entire cost of fire ranging is to be borne by the license holders, instead of half being paid by the government, as formerly. The fee for the transfer of a license is raised from \$1.00 to \$5.00 per square mile, and 25 cents per thousand is added to the stumpage dues for hemlock. It is also provided that these regulations shall remain as at present for ten years.