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You have but to call our attention to it and it will be treated as we believe to be in your interests and credited when disposed of, less commission.

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### A New Tree Pest.

Ottawa Free Press.—The horticultural section of the Agricultural Department at Washington has raised a note of warning which is worthy the hearing of our own farmers as well as those of the United States. It will be remembered that not very long ago much was written in agricultural and other papers about the pest known as the Cottony cushion, a maple scale, which committed great ravages among the farms in California. The history of the dangerous invader is given in the London Advertiser. In brief the scale came first from the acacia forests of Australia, whence it spread to South Africa in 1873, and later to New Zealand, and in 1898 was imported into California on trees and shrubs from Australia. The pest began to increase very rapidly. One potted plant is said to have spread the scale through San Gabriel Valley, and the orchards of the entire state were soon infested. For a time it looked as if the orchard lands would have to be turned into pasture for sheep and cattle. Finally the fact became known that there was some parasite in Australia to keep the scale in check, or the forests there would be exterminated. The commissioner who was sent to that country to investigate, sent back a parasite known as the leatophores, a minute fly which punctures the scale and lays its egg, which hatches out into a grub that devours the scale. Mr. Koebels also discovered that the best scale destroyer was a kind of beetle, and he immediately captured and shipped back several colonies of the beetles and their larvae. These were distributed in different sections of California, and by December of 1899 the work of exterminating the cottony scale was practically completed. According to the report of the State Horticulturist at Washington the scale has appeared again and obtained a footing in the northwestern portions of the United States and the borders of British Columbia, where it is infesting the maple, apple and cherry trees, and the greatest alarm is expressed among the farmers in Washington, Idaho and Oregon lest it may extend its ravages as it did in California. The farmers in British Columbia will have to keep a sharp eye open and the warning given may be heeded elsewhere as well, for such pests move, or perhaps more correctly, are conveyed in mysterious manners, and appear in very unexpected quarters. In the case of this particular scale it was unknown in California until its sudden appearance a few years ago, and the investigation led to the conclusion that it was taken to the state as described above by the American steamship line. We have enough horticultural pests to combat as it is, but if we are to have another it is as well to be warned in time. Farmers and orchard growers must be on the alert.

### To Haul Crow's Nest Coal.

The Seattle Times, which is usually well informed concerning the plans of the Great Northern Railway, says that work is to be begun immediately upon the Crow's Nest Southern and the branch from the Great Northern, which will connect with it. Some difference of opinion exists, says the Seattle paper, as to where the junction will be made with the main line of the Great Northern. It is claimed by the people of Kalispel that the branch will start from there. The people of Jennings, which is west of Kalispel, say their town will be selected, but The Times thinks that Libby will be the junction, and that the line will follow the course of the Kootenai river. It also says that the whole line will be completed this year, and that Crow's Nest coal will be in competition with Washington and Vancouver Island coal before the winter sets in. Granting the construction of the line within the time mentioned, it is easy to see that the Crow's Nest coal will then be in competition with the Washington coal in all points east of the Cascades. It may even pay to haul it over the mountains and sell it in the Sound cities in opposition to Washington coal, because the quality of the latter is inferior, but it is hardly likely that it will ever come in competition with such high grade coal as those mined on this island. There will undoubtedly be developed a very large trade from the Crow's Nest to points in the northwestern United States.—Victoria (B. C.) Colonist.

F. D. BOE, President

R. ABERNETHY, Vice-President

T. F. PATERSON, Hon. Treas.

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