

*The New York Plum-Scale.*—Another insect which caused a good deal of injury in Canada last year is known as the New York Plum Scale. The attention of fruit growers generally has been drawn to it because it has increased so rapidly in some of our orchards. Luckily for us in Canada, we have found that it is badly attacked by a natural parasite which has kept it down, but not sufficient to check it entirely so as to prevent loss. Thanks to the good work of Mr. Slingerland, of the New York State Agricultural College, it has been shown that by the application of kerosene emulsion this insect can be destroyed. In Canada, Mr. Fisher, of Queenston, and Mr. William Orr, of Fruitland, adopted this method of fighting it and found last autumn that they had stopped its ravages. In this way it is shown that we had a practical remedy for this insect also.

Speaking of scale insects, there is yet another one to which I desire to draw the attention of the Committee. It is rather hard to recognize it as a scale insect. It has the appearance of a little tuft of cotton wool, and occurs on grass. I do not know the extent of the injury caused by this insect, but from the fact that the meadows where it occurred had the appearance as if there had been a fall of snow; when the egg-sacks were formed, the injury cannot be great. It affects grass entirely and the only places where it has been reported in recent years, have been during the past summer on Cape Breton Island and in Nova Scotia.

An interesting fact with regard to injurious insects, which has been frequently noticed, is that no sooner does any one species become unduly abundant than it is almost invariably brought down to a normal occurrence by its natural parasite. This sample of the Cottony Grass Scale which I have here, came from Cape Breton, and during the winter I saw several parasites in the jar. I bring it to the attention of the Committee now so that the members may be able to recognize it, if unfortunately, it should appear in their locality, and they may then be able to notify the department of its occurrence. The remedy is a very easy one, these white bugs which you see on the grass are very conspicuous. They appear late in the autumn, and if the fields where it occurs are carefully burnt over so as to do no injury to the roots of the grass, and of course care being taken that the fire does not spread, the insect will be effectually destroyed. It was not brought to my attention sufficiently early last fall, in all cases, to burn over the grass, but I have recommended our Nova Scotia friends who have complained of it, to burn over the meadows in the spring, and in that way the insect will be destroyed.

*By Mr. Carpenter :*

Q. Do you find them more prevalent in a dry than in a wet season?—A. There is very little known about it. It has never occurred in injurious numbers, to my knowledge, before, but the report on the field was that the grass was light, and it was on high and dry land. The grass would be light from the large number of insects having fed on its juices during the summer.

*By Mr. Pridham :*

Q. Would that be in pastured fields?—A. Hay fields.

*By Mr. Featherston :*

Q. The insect must stay on the grass if it is killed by burning the grass over?—A. The insect passes the winter in the egg state, inside those bags to which I call your attention, during the winter. In fact, each of the white cottony bags is an egg sack, containing a large number of eggs.

Q. On the grass?—A. On the grass, yes, about two inches above the surface of the soil. It passes the winter in the egg state, so that it cannot move, and burning over the grass will destroy the whole of the eggs with the grass.

*Black Peach-aphis.*—During the past summer there has been one introduction into Canada of a rather serious nature, although we have been able, I hope, to check it and have not allowed it to spread, that is the well-known fruit pest, the Black