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## THE SAN JOSE SCALE IN ONTARIO

“ALTHOUGH the area affected by the San Jose scale increased slightly last year, and while I doubt if the scale will ever be entirely stamped out in the province, yet on the whole I think the condition of the scale is most encouraging. The panic period when growers did not know what to do for the scale has passed. It is now realized that thorough spraying will not only check the spread of the scale, but that if continued it may entirely remove it.”

These remarks were made recently to *The Horticulturist* by Mr. J. Fred. Smith, of Glanford, San Jose scale inspector for the province. Mr. Smith for several years has been in close touch with the work of fighting the scale, and consequently is in a good position to speak authoritatively concerning it.

“An encouraging feature of the present situation,” continued Mr. Smith, “is that growers are spraying as they never sprayed before. There has been a large increase this season in the number of growers who have bought spraying machinery. Last year there were only three power sprayers in use in the province. This year eleven have been used for the scale alone, not counting those used by the Dominion Department of Agriculture. This year 86,464

pounds of sulphur have been purchased to use in fighting this pest. This is fully one-third more than was purchased last year and twice as much as two years ago, although the area in which the scale is located has increased very little during that period.

In most of the infected localities the people appear to be thoroughly alive to the necessity for action. All through these sections may be seen boiling plants of every description, from the thrashing engine boiling the lime and sulphur either in large tanks or rows of barrels, to the work of the individual who boils his spraying mixture alone in iron kettles.

### WHY THE SCALE MAY SPREAD.

“There are two great dangers. In the sections which are seriously infested with the scale many growers have become so thoroughly discouraged that they have given up all attempts to fight the pest. The consequence is these districts become bad breeding points for the scale and infest other sections, and the orchards of growers who continue their preventive measures. It seems hard to convince these men who have given up, that all other sections where the scale has gained a foothold are not so badly infested as their own.

“The second danger lies in the difficulty we find in convincing growers who have not