

farmer knows that if his peas are infested with weevils he simply procures a coal oil barrel, puts his infested peas in it, puts some bisulphide on the top, closes it up tightly and leaves it for two or three days and the bugs are killed. Many farmers know this, but they do not all practise it, and consequently the Pea-weevil is still very destructive. The stand I have taken about the San José scale is that we have not yet got a practical remedy which the ordinary farmer of the country can adopt.

By Mr. Cochrane:

Q. If that is a perfect cure, I look at it this way: supposing I had an apple tree worth so much, and this remedy is perfect. If you could apply it, the remedy would not be as expensive as it would be for me to cut down the tree?

A. No, but it would be exceedingly expensive for you and your neighbours to have an accident or to try a remedy that failed.

Q. I am not talking about that, but I understood you say that there is a remedy which is costly and would not be safe for farmers to adopt, but is safe when properly handled?

A. Yes, that is true. But everybody in the district suffers if the pest occurs there at all and spreads.

By Mr. MacLaren:

Q. Are there specialists who could apply it safely?

A. There are not enough specialists in Canada to do all the work. The Government of Ontario has had to allow the treatment of trees and the country may have to suffer for it. There are a great many things that have to be considered, and there are a great many difficulties that have to be overcome. The treatment of trees is not so easy as it looks, and my only reason for saying what I have said this morning is that I do not want disappointed people afterwards to say: 'You gave us a remedy for the pest, that was no good and hundreds or even thousands of trees have been destroyed by being cut out that could have been saved if treatment had been allowed.' We have done our best and pointed out the dangers.

By Mr. Cochrane:

Q. How far east has it got yet?

A. Not quite to Toronto.

TREATMENT ACCORDING TO CLASS OF INSECT,—GREENHOUSES.

I was speaking a few minutes ago of the different kinds of insects, those which bite and those which suck their food. Those that bite can be killed by placing poisonous matter on their food. Those that do not bite their food,—such as the San José scale, which is provided with a very minute tube through which it sucks its food in a liquid form, must be treated in a different way. The most useful substances for treating these are oils, such as kerosene and emulsions of it, which suffocates them, also poisonous fumes or gas, bi-sulphide of carbon, when rendered gaseous, and hydrocyanic acid gas. Fumigation with this gas has been experimented with at Washington, very carefully, during the last two years, and has been found to be the best remedy for use in greenhouses where many insect pests are sometimes found. The business of growing plants in greenhouses is now becoming in Canada a very important industry, and as plants when grown under glass are not subject to many accidents which may occur outside, they are frequently attacked seriously by various insect pests, and are very difficult to treat on account of the delicate nature of many of these plants.

It has been found that the treatment with hydrocyanic acid gas is valuable for greenhouses. When it has been learnt by experiment what strength of gas the

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