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POPULAR AND ECONOMIC ENTOMOLOGY.

NOTES OF ECONOMIC INTEREST FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA.*

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The Province of British Columbia, from the standpoint of insects of economic interest, occupies an extremely interesting position, both in regard to those insects indigenous to and acclimated within its boundaries and because the location makes the Province liable to insect migrations from points in the Pacific.

It has been said that the British Columbia field of economic entomological investigation is the most interesting of any in the Dominion of Canada. This, of course, is not strictly true, but the great interest of the western field lies in the fact that one is able to cover the essential history of agriculture, which has occurred for the most part within the past half century, and note the appearance and progress of related insect pests.

For instance, the Imported Cabbage worm (*Pontia rapæ* Sch.) was observed in the eastern section of the Province in 1898 and 1899. It had spread west to the Pacific Ocean in 1901, while in 1902 it had crossed the narrow strip of water and was taken on Vancouver Island. The Colorado Potato Beetle (*Leptinotarsa decemlineata* Say) became established at Nez Percé in Idaho State some 12 years ago. It now apparently infests southeastern Washington seriously and its movement is undoubtedly towards the southeastern boundary of British Columbia. As yet, we have no record of its presence in the Province. The San José Scale, however, was found at one known point in the Province some years ago,† and that in a small isolated orchard area. Through radical control measures the outbreak was checked and is now believed to be entirely eradicated, but the northern trend of this scale is being watched from the lower valley of the Okanagan River in Washington State. Two years ago it had reached a point at

*Contributions from the Entomological Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

†1894.