

these outbreaks on the prairies, from an economic standpoint, is that the threatened loss will not consist of a series of small losses spread over the entire country, but the total, or almost total, destruction of localized areas, resulting in the partial or complete wiping out of the crops of hundreds of individual farms, a potential loss of approximately 50 million bushels being involved.

To prevent the ruin of so many of our citizens, when it can readily be accomplished by present services, would appear to be an obligation of the government.

In further regard to Prairie Province problems, the Dominion officers are pioneers in the field of the forecasting of outbreaks of certain insects, such as pale western cutworm, of which an outbreak involving over half of the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan is said to be in prospect. Since the methods involved in the control of this insect are largely indirect, requiring, for their successful application, constant educational effort, which only these officers can supply, it would seem the part of wisdom to increase rather than diminish the staff of trained officers at this particular time.

Orchard Insects

No crop more than the apple and other fruit crops is subject to such a variety of serious pests, nor requires more expert care to enable the end product to compete with that of our competitors in New York, Virginia or Washington. In each province Dominion officers are responsible, to a very large extent, for recent progress in this industry; the growers owe them the spraying schedules that alone