

enough to back him up in enforcing the act, then no other power need undertake to carry out the act. You must have the people with you or you can never make a law a success.

I do not think the scale has spread very much in the last two years. The period during which it spread the most was during 1900 and 1901, when nothing was being done to hold it in check. In 1899 the destruction of the trees was discontinued and everything was then for a year or two in an experimental stage. The people were not then alive to the danger and did very little spraying. Many were skeptical about the scale ever killing a tree. This is not to be wondered at, for during the years that the trees were destroyed everything on which a scale could be found was destroyed and there was no evidence of what the scale would do if left to itself.

The next two years soon convinced those who had scale in their neighborhood of its destructiveness, and then there came a clamor for some remedy, and I do not believe to-day, that in any section where the scale has not practically got everything, that the people are not doing everything in their power to hold it in check. In my neighborhood there are, of course, some careless growers who will not do their work well and do just as little as possible, but still the law is clear and strong, and any person can put the act in force, so that I do not see how the act can be improved.

It has been said that the scale is slowly but surely spreading. This is no doubt true to a certain extent, but it must be remembered that during three years of inaction the scale was spreading fast, and it always spreads farther than any one would expect or look for. It is only when it has had time to develop that growers become aware of its presence, and they then speak of it as if it had only recently arrived, when such is not the case. I have known instances of scale being in an orchard for two or three years, and for some reason or other it did not increase at all, but all at once it became epidemic and spread and multiplied with great rapidity.

The amendment made in 1902 to the San Jose Scale Act was, I think, a great improvement. I have never heard any fault found with the act since the amendment. The only portion of the act which does not seem clear to some municipal councils is sub-section 3 of the amendment, section 4 of the act. Some councils have taken the ground that the department undertakes in that sub-section to pay half of the black knot and yellows inspector's time, but this is not the intention of the clauses. The meaning is that the same person may act in both capacities, that is, could be black knot, yellows and San Jose scale inspector. It might be made clear that it was not intended to pay half the cost of his time for hunting the black knot and yellows.

THE CO-OPERATIVE PACKING OF FRUIT

"THE more I look into this matter of cooperation in the packing of fruit by growers," said Alex. McNeill, chief of the fruit division, a few days ago to *The Horticulturist*, "the more I realize how many benefits the system has. A large number of varieties of apples depend for their keeping qualities on the time at which they are picked. For this reason there is no one

or two periods during the growing season at which it is possible to pick an orchard.

"The professional packer cannot afford to send a gang to an orchard more than twice, and often only once during a season. The result is he is often forced to gather a considerable quantity of fruit that is either over or under ripe. This means that every season a considerable quantity of fruit is