

## INSECTS, FUNGOUS DISEASES,—TREATMENTS

HOUSE OF COMMONS,  
COMMITTEE ROOM 34,  
OTTAWA, March 20, 1902.

The Select Standing Committee on Agriculture and Colonization met here this day at ten o'clock a.m., Mr. Ross (Ontario) presiding, pro tem.

Dr. James Fletcher, Entomologist and Botanist of the Experimental Farms, was present by request of the Committee, and made the following statement with reference to his work during the past year :—

### VALUE OF THE COMMITTEE'S INVESTIGATIONS, TO AGRICULTURE.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, as I have said before at this Committee, one of the pleasant events of the year is appearing before the Select Standing Committee on Agriculture. It is not only pleasant, but it is very useful to me in my work. The work in the Division under my charge which deals with entomology and botany, or insects and plants, is, of course, of much importance to the agriculture of the country. This is plainly shown by the large number of inquiries which come before us every year with regard to injuries that occur to crops, from insects and fungous diseases, as well as from the occurrence of weeds or other injurious plants. There is already a great deal of correspondence in the department, which I am thankful to say is gradually increasing every year, showing that the value of our work is becoming recognized. During the past year over 3,000 letters were received from farmers and others in the country asking for information about plants and insects. This, of course, brings us into contact with the people most interested in all parts of the Dominion.

I have stated on previous occasions that appearing before this Committee is of a great deal of use to me, and I feel more and more that that is the case, because the members who attend ask many questions and learn the scope of our work, then when difficulties arise among their constituents or in their own localities, such as injuries to crops either from fungous diseases or insect attacks, they put their friends in correspondence with the Division of Entomology, and in that way we are able to disseminate some of the information that we have gathered through a great many years of study of this particular kind of knowledge. This work is increasing from year to year, which is very satisfactory, from my point of view, at any rate.

### THE INJURIOUS INSECTS OF 1901.

With your permission, I will refer briefly to some of the injuries to crops which have come before me during the past year, taking first of all those that were due to insects, and speaking of them in their order of importance, on account of the injury done. I will refer to them under the different heads.

### THE SAN JOSE SCALE AND THE REMEDIES FOR IT.

The subject which is now always of very great interest, and particularly so in the fruit growing districts, is the San José Scale which was introduced into Canada,