

grow it for use in making punch-Potus Polopuntiae. A Danish preacher about 1800 wrote as follows regarding the effect of a barberry hedge on a farmer's place: "The hedge thrived well but it had a serious effect: it gave the straw of the grain shelter but the seed death." Again, a member of the Danish Land Husbandry Association about the same time wrote as follows: "A sensible man became angry upon seeing a barberry bush in my yard and another became so melancholy that he hung his head for a long time."

But some people did more than hang their heads: they had the courage of their convictions and enacted laws making the barberry an outlaw. The first barberry eradication law was supposed to have been passed in Rouen France in 1660. The colony of Connecticut, passed a law in 1726 which permitted each township to forbid the cultivation of the barberry bush. Massachusetts and Rhode Island also legislated against the barberry soon after. Many laws were passed in European countries, but apparently most of them were not enforced. But it is significant that the effect of the bush in spreading rust was so clearly apparent that people resorted to legal means to secure its removal before they knew just how it affected rust.

The scientific demonstration of the relation between the barberry and stem rust came in 1865 when the great botanist De Bary proved it to the satisfaction of the most captious. Since that time the demonstration has been repeated thousands of times. It would seem that the discovery would have prompted public spirited people to insist on the eradication of the bush, but the only successful attempt on a large scale seems to have been that in Denmark where a law was passed in 1903

requiring the destruction of the bushes. The barberry had been removed entirely from Denmark and the rust has diminished so much that it is no longer a serious factor. Other abortive attempts were made. There is a law in Ontario now which gives the township authorities the right to order the destruction of the bushes, but it is not enforced rigorously.

The present movement for the destruction of the rust susceptible barberry began about a year ago. The farmers of the great Northwest demanded that every possible means be taken to reduce rust losses and the plant doctors had already made up their minds that the barberry must go. Manitoba and Saskatchewan branded the bush as a noxious weed and there are few bushes left in those provinces. The legislature of North Dakota passed a law in 1917 requiring the destruction of all kinds of barberry known to be susceptible to rust. The barberry is also an outlaw in several other states of the Upper Mississippi Basin.

Thousands of the common barberry bushes have been destroyed in the fourteen states in which the barberry eradication campaign was carried on during the past summer; and thousands of others will be destroyed next spring. The nurserymen of Minnesota alone destroyed 598,549 bushes and property owners removed about 75,000. One nurseryman in Iowa dug up and burned over 50,000 plants. So many bushes were dug up on the campus of a college in the middle west that it took two teams more than four hours to haul them away. And every barberry bush destroyed means just that much added protection to grain plants.

Canadian Plant Pathologists at their recent meeting at Guelph went on re-

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