

The New Destructive Insects and Pests Act, 1910.

Dr. C. Gordon Hewitt, Dominion Entomologist, reminds the public that by the passing of the Destructive Insects and Pests Act, the San Jose Scale Act is repealed. It will be seen, he says, that the new Act and regulations are of a wider character and of a far greater protective value to the fruit-grower and nurseryman. The fumigation regulations instituted under that Act have been incorporated in the new regulations, with certain alterations. Under the new fumigation regulations conifers will be fumigated. It is hoped that this will assist in preventing the introduction into nurseries of several species of woolly plant lice, which infest nursery stock, and which are carried in the same.

In addition to the fumigation regulations provision is made for:

1. The inspection at the points of destination of European nursery stock (which is still exempt from fumigation), and such other stock as it may be deemed necessary to inspect.

2. The destruction of infested stock and packages, etc., containing the same, and compensation for such matter as may be destroyed.

3. The inspection of orchards and nurseries, and the treatment of infested vegetation.

4. The prohibition of the disposal in any way of vegetation infested with insects scheduled under the Act.

5. The notification of the presence of any of the insects, pests or diseases.

In view of the increasing amount of nursery stock imported through the port of Niagara Falls, the importation season for that port has been extended, and stock may now be imported between October 1st and May 1st.

The attention of importers of nursery stock is called particularly to regulation 5, under which notification must be given of the importation of nursery stock.

All nursery stock, including European and such stock as is exempt from fumigation, may be imported only during the periods specified under regulation 3.

By the terms of the Destructive Insects and Pests Act of 1910, above referred to, the Governor-in-Council may make such regulations as are deemed expedient to prevent the introduction or admission into Canada of any insect, pest, or disease destructive to vegetation. Such regulations may prohibit the importation of suspected shrubs, trees or vegetables, or provide terms under which they may be imported, inspected, treated or destroyed. They can be made to apply also to infested trees or vegetable matter in the country which can be ordered to be destroyed, or the sale prohibited. The Act provides for the appointment of inspectors to carry out regulations. For breaches of the Act a fine of \$100 may be imposed, or six months' imprisonment, or both fine and imprisonment.

The following are some of the regulations established by the Governor-in-Council under the provisions of the Act:

Regulation 1 defines "Inspector." Regulation 2 prohibits importation of all infested trees, plants, etc., except as afterwards provided.

No. 3 provides that all nursery stock, including trees, shrubs, plants, vines, grafts, scions, cuttings or buds entering Canada shall be imported only through the ports and during the periods as follows: Vancouver, B. C., and Niagara Falls, Ont., from October 1st to May 1st, and Winnipeg, Man., and St. John, N. B., from March 15th to May 15th, and from September 26th to December 7th. At these points of entry stock must, with some exceptions, be fumigated before they can be taken out of bond. The exceptions include most greenhouse plants, all herbaceous perennials and bedding plants, bulbs and tubers, nursery stock originating in Europe, and cottonwood poplar from Dakota or Minnesota.

Importers of nursery stock must give notice to the Minister within five days of sending order, and again on arrival of shipment in Canada, according to regulation 5.

European stock may be allowed to proceed and be inspected at the point of destination, but must not be unpacked except in the presence of an inspector.

Inspectors are given large powers as to the treatment or destruction of infested stock, etc., whether imported or found in the country, so that the insect, pest or disease may be exterminated. Compensation not exceeding two-thirds of value will be allowed where stock is totally destroyed.

The Minister must be notified at once when any of the insects, pests or diseases specified are discovered.

The following are named as those to which the Act at present applies: San Jose scale, brown tail moth, woolly aphid, West Indian peach scale, gypsy moth, potato canker and parasitic diseases of potato, white or stem canker, gooseberry uldew, and white pine blister rust.

A memorandum has been sent out by the Commissioner of Customs to all collectors of customs, drawing attention to the regulations under "The

Destructive Insects and Pests Act," which came into force May 11th, 1910, and which are appended to the memorandum. Goods imported contrary to the Act are to be detained, and the collector is to notify the importer to that effect, and also that the goods will be destroyed unless the importer gives instructions to the collector without delay to have the same returned.

Prohibited goods, if to be returned, should be exported out of Canada without delay, in bond, otherwise they are to be destroyed.

The way land values have been jumping in the Niagara fruit district is simply astonishing. Sale after sale is cited, till the visitor's head fairly swims. The Clerk of Clinton Township, County of Lincoln, a conservative-minded man, says real-estate values in that township have quadrupled in the last ten years. One 64-acre farm, near Vine-land, which sold four or five years ago for between five and six thousand dollars, recently changed hands at eighteen thousand. Another parcel of fifteen acres, without buildings, sold for a thousand an acre. By way of partial explanation of this sky-rocketing trend, we are informed by the Ontario Government's experts, who have been making a fruit survey of the township, that while the bearing peach trees number 32,000, the young trees not yet fruiting aggregate 64,000. The returns from fruit-growing, combined with its attractiveness and the desirability of the section from a residential standpoint, go to explain the inflation of values.

POULTRY.

Co-operative Egg Circles Organized in Peterborough County.

Heads of two great Canadian transportation companies, the C. P. R. and the Allan S. S. Co., visited Macdonald College, P. Q., recently, and looked over the ground to see whether it would be feasible to establish a 50,000-hen poultry plant to furnish dependable eggs for their dining-cars and steamships. They do not desire to go into the poultry business for its own sake, but they want to insure a large supply of eggs on which they can depend. Cost is quite a secondary consideration, if they can get the goods, but with all the twenty-five millions of dollars worth of eggs, more or less, marketed in Canada each year, the produce firm which supplies the Allan Steamship Line confesses that it simply cannot get enough absolutely reliable, choice, fresh-laid eggs to meet this company's requirements.

The Montreal firm of Gunn & Langlois, who supply the Allan Company, have forty-five candlers working three hours overtime, receiving \$1.50 to \$2.00 per day apiece, in an expensive warehouse on St. Paul St., Montreal, grading eggs, and enough are dumped out of this warehouse each year to buy a township.

It is estimated that about 17 per cent. of the cost of the eggs entering commercial channels in Canada goes out as waste, a dead loss, assessed by the inexorable average of commerce upon the producers of good eggs.

All over America the system of indiscriminate buying of eggs has prevailed. This system must be changed, if we are to get the most out of the produce.

When taken in at the grocery store, the eggs, good, bad, and indifferent—for the grocer takes many he knows are bad, for fear of losing a customer—are put in a back shed, perhaps, along with some onions, from which they absorb odors through their porous shells, and are left here maybe a week, exposed to a temperature of 100 degrees, which starts incubation in fertile eggs.

After the collector has received perhaps a cent a dozen, and 2 to 6 cents charge has been paid for transportation, the wholesaler candlers the eggs, and takes out 2 to 4 dozen spoiled ones from each case.

Eggs have two values—an intrinsic value, and a relative value. Two cases of eggs of good quality may have the same intrinsic value, but the one may have a relative value for high-class trade 50 per cent. above the other, because the eggs are uniform in size and color, and attractively put up.

From three to six middlemen are taking toll of expenses and profits out of the eggs between the producer and the consumer in our larger cities, where, by the way, the net price of eggs in the smaller centers is largely regulated. It is roughly estimated that, of the twenty-five million dollars' worth of hen fruit marketed in Canada last year, the producers got about fifteen millions, the other ten millions representing the cost of getting this produce to the consumer.

The Poultry Department of Macdonald College sold all its eggs two years ago last winter at a straight price of 50 cents a dozen, a year ago at 60 cents, while last winter they were all taken at 70 cents.

Bressed poultry, unbled, was sold last fall and early winter in Montreal, through the Poultry-producers' Association, at 19 cents a pound for

selects (comprising about 40 per cent. of the whole), 16 cents for No. 1 grade (comprising about 50 per cent.), and 14 cents a pound for No. 2 (comprising the remaining ten per cent.). A dealer who had refused to entertain an offer of the goods at this price, when he saw some of it exhibited at the Quebec Poultry and Pet Stock Winter Fair in Montreal, declared that if he had known that was the kind of stock offered him, it would not have been a question of price at all; it would have been a question of getting the stuff.

Gunn & Langlois, of Montreal, have been buying fat hens for the Montreal Hebrew trade, at 14 cents a pound, in Peterborough and other points from farmers. A local buyer has been working in the same county, paying 11 cents a pound for the same kind of stock, selling to Gunn & Langlois at 14 cents, and pocketing the difference as his toll. At the same time, Macdonald College is selling similar stock for 18 cents a pound, and broilers at \$2.00 a pair.

The nearer the farm the eggs are candled, the better. The time will soon come when farmers will be candling their own eggs.

The present system of marketing eggs is shamefully wasteful and unbusinesslike.

As soon as a poultry circle has a brand with an unimpeachable reputation, it can dictate its own prices.

These sensational, but well-authenticated statements, made by reputable men speaking from actual knowledge, are some of the cannon shots from a battery of argument which has aroused the people of Peterborough County, where the preliminary organization of five Egg Circles was accomplished last week. The movement is an outgrowth of the propaganda conducted by Prof. F. C. Elford, Poultry Manager of Macdonald College, Que., the Canadian apostle of co-operation as applied to poultry marketing, and father of that important organization known as the Poultry-producers' Association of Canada. The formation of these local branch associations in Peterborough, the first important strictly co-operative egg or poultry circles in Canada, was due to the initiative and energy of a level-headed poultry enthusiast named John I. Brown, a native of Renfrew Co., Ont., who has recently become connected with the allied firms of Gunns' Limited, Toronto, and Gunn & Langlois, Montreal. Mr. Brown is a farmer's son who became interested in poultry, made a success of it, and has had considerable experience organizing the poultry industry on a somewhat different plan in the Ottawa Valley. One of his special missions in his present position is to organize the egg-and-produce business on a satisfactory co-operative basis, to the end that his firm may be able to secure a supply of reliable, choice-quality eggs and other produce to meet the large and growing demands of their trade. They have no desire to "hog" the business, and do not bind the egg circles to deal with them only, but naturally and reasonably expect, by fair treatment, to secure and retain a good share of the patronage from the circles they are directly instrumental in organizing. It is hoped that other firms will help to promote the movement in other localities. Mr. Brown selected Peterborough County as a starting point, and enlisted the ready co-operation of the Ontario Department of Agriculture, through its Local Representative, H. C. Duff, B. S. A., stationed at Norwood, a town 20 miles east of Peterborough. They have had the very effective assistance of Prof. Elford, as well as H. B. Cowan, of Peterborough. By personal canvass and meetings, farmers in the vicinity of Peterborough have been interested, and persuaded to organize. This they have done with considerable enthusiasm. The first of the five circles was started in the progressive dairying district of Central Smith, where, on the evening of Friday, June 3rd, a rally meeting was held, attended by editorial representatives of five leading agricultural papers of Canada, each of whom spoke briefly, following the organizers above mentioned, and a local man, T. D. Young, president of No. 3 Circle. The meeting was presided over by J. A. McGregor, of Peterborough, president of Circle No. 1. The secretary of this Circle is Wm. Scott. It is the intention to continue the work in Peterborough until the county is well organized, after which it is proposed to branch out elsewhere. While starting in a modest way with the egg business, it is expected to branch out later and take in the poultry, the cheese and the bacon business, and other lines of produce. The method of organization and proposed plan of operation are very simple, and it would appear that the scheme is not too ambitious to succeed.

ORGANIZATION, RULES AND REGULATIONS.

The circles are organized as branches of the Poultry-producers' Association, with which they are loosely affiliated. Their constitutions differ in details from that of the parent organization, though essentially the same. Each circle comprehends a convenient neighborhood, in one case a cheese-factory section. Officers consist of a president, secretary, and a board of three directors. The membership fee is \$1.00 per annum, of which about 15 cents will be laid out directly for stamps. The circles as now organized, are to