Speaking of scale insects, there is yet another one to which I desire to draw the attention of the Committee. It is rather hard to recognize it as a scale insect. It has the appearance of a little tuft of cotton wool and occurs on grass. I do not know the extent of the injury caused by this insect, but from the fact that the meadows where it occurred had the appearance as if there had been a fall of snow, when the egg-sacks were formed, the injury cannot but be great. It affects grass entirely and the only places where it has been reported in recent years have been during the past summer on Cape Breton Island and in Nova Scotia.

An interesting fact with regard to injurious insects, which has been frequently noticed, is that no sooner does any one species become unduly abundant than it is almost invariably brought down to a normal occurrence by its natural parasite. This sample of the Cottony Grass Scale which I have here came from Cape Breton, and during the winter I saw several parasites in the jar. I bring it to the attention of the Committee now so that the members may be able to recognize it, if unfortunately it should appear in their locality and they may then be able to notify the Department of its occurrence. The remedy is a very easy one, these white bags which you see on the grass are very conspicuous. They appear late in the autumn and if the fields where it occurs are carefully burnt over so as to do no injury to the roots of the grass and of course care being taken that the fire does not spread, the insect will be effectually destroyed. It was not brought to my attention sufficiently early last fall in all cases to burn over the grass, but I have recommended our Nova Scotia friends who have complained of it, to burn over the meadows in the spring and in that way the insect will be destroyed.

By Mr. Carpenter :

Q. Do you find them more prevalent in a dry than in a wet season?—A. There is very little known about it. It has never occurred in injurious numbers to my knowledge, before, but the report on the field was that the grass was light and it was on high and dry land. The grass would be light from the large number of insects having fed on its juices during the summer.

By Mr. Pridham :

Q. Would that be in pastured fields?—A. Hay fields.

By Mr. Featherston :

Q. The insect must stay on the grass, if it is killed by burning the grass over?—A. The insect passes the winter in the egg state, inside those bags to which I call your attention, during the winter. In fact, each of the white cottony bags is an egg-sack containing a large number of eggs.

Q. On the grass?—A. On the grass, yes, about two inches above the surface of the soil. It passes the winter in the egg state, so that it cannot move, and burning over the grass will destroy the whole of the eggs with the grass.

Black Peach-aphis.—During the past summer there has been one introduction into Canada of rather a serious nature, although we have been able I hope to check it, and have not allowed it to spread, that is the well-known fruit pest the Black Peach-aphis of New York State where it has done a great deal of harm. It belongs to the plant-louse family, and, as its name says, it is black. It does injury to both the roots and twigs of the peach tree. When occurring on the twigs and branches it is very easily treated with the well known standard remedy for sucking insects, coal oil and soap suds. When found at the root the difficulties of treatment are greater because any applications to the surface simply drive the insects further down towards the young tips of the roots, and there they do injury by sucking out the juice and prevent the young feeding rootlets from performing their proper functions.

Professor J. B. Smith, of New Brunswick, New Jersey, has tried very extensive experiments with kainit, and he has found where it is applied the insect has been checked and the tree very much invigorated and improved in health. The application