

Hy. Saunders, Dr. Law, Prof. Bowman, R. W. Rennie, London.

The whole of the afternoon of the opening session was devoted to a discussion of the San José scale, Prof. Dearness introducing the subject with a paper in which he traced the introduction of the San José scale into California, and stating that it probably made its first appearance in Ontario about the year 1887. He also gave an interesting account of the trip taken by the San José Scale Commission in visiting the infested districts, and thought that by a judicious application of whale-oil soap the scale might be controlled in Ontario if not altogether eradicated.

Prof. Webster gave the result of his experience in fighting this pest in Ohio, and said that it was of the utmost importance that the work of spraying the infested trees should be controlled by some one man, this man to be responsible for the proper carrying out of this work. The fruit growers not knowing the nature of this scale could not be relied upon, he said, to use the proper solution at the proper time.

Prof. Lochhead gave an account of certain infested orchards in Ontario and was of opinion that the scale would not develop as rapidly in this cold climate as it does in the south. He thought it would be a capital idea if Public School inspectors in the province were supplied with samples of the scale, in order that they might show the same to the school children, pointing out the pernicious character of this insect, and in this manner the public would be informed generally.

Mr. Fisher mentioned that there are only three points in Ontario at which the infestation has extended to any great proportions, and spoke of the great rapidity with which the scale increases. He also spoke of interesting observations which he had made in connection with his endeavors to control this insect.

Dr. Fletcher also referred to the scale as the most dangerous pest fruit growers have to contend against, but stated it could be successfully treated if specialists who understood their work could be secured and fruit growers taught that they and the whole country were concerned. He complimented the Ontario Minister of Agriculture upon the steps taken to stamp out the scale.

Prof. James, representing the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, spoke of the magnitude of the task confronting the Department,