

in many instances and the fruit may suffer in consequence later on if spjt develops rapidly.

HAROLD JONES.

Maitland, Ont., June 3rd, 1901.

#### A Remedy for Weeds in Walk.

A correspondent writes that he has used Gillett's lye for destroying weeds and grass that grow up in gravel walks and through slats, with success. He says:

"A fairly strong solution should be made and poured carefully between the slats, and in a day or two all the unsightly grass and weeds will have disappeared. I find that by applying a very small quantity of the solution to the roots of dandelions, that it instantly destroys them, and as the root is killed, there will be no further growth. For latter purpose the solution can be applied with a small sprayer or a large oil-can. By adopting the same method in the treatment of other weeds, a similar result can be obtained.

#### The Tent Caterpillar.

SIR,—This section of Ontario is a present receiving the attention of the Tent Caterpillar to such an extent that even that proverbial wise man "the oldest inhabitant" has never seen anything like it. A trip through the country in any direction in South Waterloo, and North Bruce, shows that the orchards in many localities are literally laden with these pests. All along the road sides, also where the wild cherry and plum trees grow, the same condition exists and the fruit trees are being rapidly denuded of their leaves. The same state of affairs would have prevailed in Paris, but our local Horticultural Society set a man to work to destroy the caterpillars on the wild fruit trees which grow so plentifully on our streets, and this

example has had a good effect, as many of the town people are heartily seconding the effort. Still many are careless and the prospect is that not only their own fruit trees will be permanently injured, but their neighbors are certain to suffer also.

The Town Council, at our request, has also set men to work and large numbers of useless trees are growing on the public streets. But the difficulty is now with the careless and indifferent people who are permitting the pests to mature, and in some parts of the town the caterpillars are to be met with on the sidewalks, crawling on the fences and into the houses, until the more thoughtful and careful people are wondering where the business is going to end. There can be but one result, the destruction of all fruit trees where the caterpillars are allowed to increase and multiply.

Can you inform me what power a municipal Council has in this matter, and whether a By-law cannot be passed which will give the necessary power to the police to punish people who permit such a nuisance to continue on their premises?

Paris, Ont.

JOHN ALLAN,  
President, Paris Hort. Soc.

There is a *Noxious Insect Act*, recently passed by the Ontario Legislature, which provides that at the option of a municipal Council, its provisions may be applicable, and the Lieutenant Governor in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of Agriculture, may make such regulations for the prevention and destruction of insects injurious to trees, shrubs and other plants, as may be deemed advisable.

## OUR FRUIT CROP REPORT.

 THE apple crop generally, as will be seen from the table of reports given herewith, is a comparative failure in Ontario. The same is true of the apple crop in New York, and indeed in most of the Eastern States. This would indicate a better price for our apples, unless the reports should prove true of a heavy apple crop in the West.

The pear crop is pretty good, especially Bartlett's, although in some quarters even these are a thin crop.

Peaches are also good, though considerably thinned by curl leaf.

Cherries are a very poor crop. Gov. Woods are now ripening, but are very much blighted; the Tartarian will give about a half crop, while the Dukes, Morellos and Kentesh are all a comparative failure.

The California cherry crop is reported to be a failure also, so that cherries should bring an excellent price in our markets.

The Hudson River crop of sweet cherries is reported good, but the sour varieties are not heavily loaded.

The following table shows the conditions of the fruit crop in various parts of Ontario: