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Committee 63 Victoria, e " Codling

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-The bands shall be made of "Burlap" or "Sacking," or similar suitable material, and shall not be less than four inches in width, and of three thicknesses, and shall be securely fastened at a convenient point between the crotch of the tree and the ground.

3.—The occupant or owner shall have these bands removed and inspected, all larvae therein destroyed, and the bands replaced at intervals of not more than two weeks during the

months of June, July and August.

A number of fruitgrowers attended special meetings of the Saltfleet Township Council on June 8th and 9th asking that such By-law be passed. The Council declined to act but requested that a series of public meetings, be held throughout the township at the earliest possible date to discuss the advisability of such action, posters were put up throughout the township, and small bills were distributed through the public schools to the residents and ratepayers, and five public meetings were held and resolutions were passed at each, favoring the enforcement of the act. These were presented at the next meeting of the council, July 9th, at which the By law was passed, and three inspectors appointed to look after enforcement of same. Some time was required to get the necessary printing done and placed in the hands of the ratepayers as required by the Act and its regulations consequently the Act could not be enforced before the 20th of July. Although most of the growers attended to the work earlier there were a few who did not until they were forcibly reminded of their duty by the inspectors on their second visit some two weeks later. About the last week of July and the first week of August, we commenced the work of destroying the larvæ, and chrysalids in our own orchards on the 9th of July. Thus it will be seen that the act could not under these circumstances be enforced early enough to catch the whole of the first brood, but would allow part of the moth to escape and lay their eggs for the second brood. Another feature of the case was that this work had to be done just in the having and harvest season amongst the farmers; and I understand that the inspectors were privately instructed by the council board not to be too severe in enforcing the Act under the circumstances but rather to proceed as far as possible without making its enforement a hardship. Another troublesome feature of the work was the scarcity of canvas; such was the demand in Hamiliton that the regular price was doubled and trebled before the season was over; in fact the supply became exhausted and felt paper had to be resorted to. It is currently reported that in a me cases bands were put on and never attended to through the inspectors being lenient and not making their final rounds; and I have no doubt that this is true to a small extent. However, the intention of the present council board if re-elected is to thoroughly enforce the act another year and if possible make it a complete success and no doubt they will have the support of the people generally (with some few objecting). Many who were doubtful of the success of the work at first after seeing the great numbers of larvæ, caught, especially the fall and winter brood are now in favor of it. A few who were sworn to defeat the council at the next contest for having pa sed the By-law are now friendly toward them, and from careful inquiry lately public sentiment seems to be strongly in favor of the continuance of the work.

In reference to the conditions of the season it is considered that it has been a very favorable one for the propagation of the pest, being mostly dry and warm without any long continued cold rains to destroy the moth when on the wing or hinder her in the operation of depositing her eggs and also in hatching of the same, added to this the large brood wintered over from 1899, the crop of that season both of apples and pears being a fair one furnishes a food supply for their propagation. Yet such numbers have been destroyed as to permit of a good season's pack of clean fruit, whereas had they not been destroyed but permitted to continue their propagation under such favorable conditions we could not have expected to harvest but a small percentage of fruit free from their ravages, but with provision for the destruction of this season's winter brood we hope to be at a great advantage over the past season in destroying the pest during the coming year. Your committee herewith exhibit specimens of infested bands and trust that the Act and its regulations with some necessary amendments may soon be adopted throughout the Province by which means it can only be most beneficial. All of which is respectfully submitted.

Signed

JOSEPH TWEDDLE, Chairman of Committee.