

HEDGES.

Mr. BEALL (of Lindsay).—I have tried Native spruce for a hedge, and I like it very much; but during the last few years I thought I would rather take Norway spruce. I thought the Native spruce was the best we could get; but if I were going to plant another hedge, I would take the Norway. We can get Norway spruce that has been two or three times transplanted, and I think it makes a better hedge than the Native. The Arbor Vitæ would make a good hedge. The proper time to plant, I think, is in the spring of the year. If I could get at them, I would take them up when they make the first start in the spring, and have them planted the same day; that would be somewhere about the middle of May, or the latter part. I would plant Norway spruce two feet apart, and I think they should be pruned once a year, sometime about the first of August, or just about when the trees have made all their growth.

Mr. MORRIS (of Fonthill).—There are two spruces natives of this country. The Black spruce is not worth anything, but the White spruce is better than the Norway. I do not know whether it can be got in this neighbourhood or not. Next to that the Norway spruce is best. I differ, however, from Mr. Beall as to the time of pruning. I would prune about the middle of June. At that time the new buds would form back of where it was cut, which would not be the case in August.

Mr. HILLBORN (of Arkona).—For a wind-break I like the Scotch pine. It grows much more rapidly.

Mr. J. CROIL (of Aultsville).—Nothing makes a prettier fence than cedar. We take the trees from the bush on a wet day, dig a ditch and put them in closely. Cover over the earth and you will hardly ever see a failure.

Mr. A. M. SMITH (of St. Catharines).—I have grown fine hedges from cedar and spruce, and I agree with Mr. Morris as to the time of pruning.

Mr. BICK (of Bobcaygeon).—Mr. Boyle has a fine hedge, and he has been pruning every day since the first of May.

Mr. BOYLE (of Bobcaygeon).—And some of them look pretty sick. My trees have been pruned so much there is hardly anything left to judge by. I do not know what shape to prune them into. I never cut the bottom, but the top, and I should like information on the subject.

Mr. BEADLE.—I have some notions about that, but perhaps they are only notions. If you wish to confine your hedges within any space, you must shear them; but I think the prettiest American white spruce or Norway's I ever saw, were those which grew just as nature taught them, and upon which the knife had not been used. When the branches are straggling out you can pinch off those that are ahead quite easily, and in time they branch out regularly. You can make your hedges quite symmetrical, but in nine cases out of ten, they will grow that way themselves.

Mr. MORRIS.—I do not think that Norway spruce should be planted on the side of a house. Smaller evergreens are preferable, and I think the Arbor Vitæ is the prettiest of all trees for a lawn. Hedges must be pruned of course.

Mr. BEADLE.—I should make a light hedge in the shape of an acute triangle. It stands the snow best.

Mr. BOYLE.—Is the month of June too late to transplant?

Mr. BEADLE.—I would prefer to plant just as soon as the buds begin to push out.

This closed the discussion, as the members were obliged to leave in order to catch the boat.

FRUITS IN NORTH SIMCOE.

The following report on fruits in North Simcoe was handed in by Mr. G. C. Caston, of Vespra:

The Season of 1886 has been a very favourable one for fruit in this section of country, as those who visited our Central Exhibition at Barrie can testify. People from southern and more favoured localities, were surprised at the display of apples and grapes grown in