

soon as possible and at the same time indicate whether they have any preference as to the date of reading their papers. The inaugural meeting will probably be held in the beginning of December. Titles of papers must be sent in before the 15th November, after which date the committee will take steps to fill up any vacancies which may then exist in the programme.

AN IMPORTANT WORK.

"ENTOMOLOGY FOR BEGINNERS" for the use of young folks, fruit-growers, farmers and gardeners, by A. S. Packard, M.D., Ph.D.

We have received from Dr. Packard's publishers a copy of his new work bearing the above caption. This little book is undoubtedly an important one and its appearance very well-timed. At the present day when the necessity is acknowledged for knowing something of the life-histories of the many injurious insects which annually destroy a large proportion of our crops, it is a rather remarkable fact that there was not until Dr. Packard's book appeared, any small manual to be had at a low price, such as those who were not entomologists would care to buy and have on their shelves "in case they might require it." Moreover, undoubtedly, one of the greatest hindrances to a beginner when anxious to make a collection of insects and to learn something of their habits, was the fact that there was no small, systematic work from which he could obtain the necessary information which he required at the very start—such as the way to collect, kill, mount, preserve, and classify his specimens.

This drawback which has existed for so long is, we believe, now supplied by the above mentioned work.

The want of a convenient hand-book was particularly felt by those educationists who were wide-awake enough to appreciate the value of entomological studies as a means of training the mind of youth in a way which, at the same time that it sharpens the faculties of observation and memory, gives the power to think—from the fact that it deals with real things which actually exist and which the students can find and