

breeding pools since his announcement of his first experiment a year ago. Mr. Smith in discussion mentioned two cases where this remedy had been applied effectually on Long Island. Mr. Webster thought that further experimentation was needed on the line as to the office of mosquito larvæ in destroying organic matter in water, which might otherwise become offensive.

The Secretary read a paper by Dr. Ritsema Bos, on "*Phytomyza affinis*, Fall., as a Cause of Decay in Clematis." The larvæ of this little fly he had found to produce a disease spot on the stem a little above the level of the ground, causing the subsequent drying up of the stem. He found two generations of the fly each year, and advised the cutting off and burning of decaying stalks in early summer. Messrs. Hopkins and Garman reported similar appearances in potato stalks and the terminal twigs of apple, which were probably due to a closely allied insect.

Mr. Smith read a paper on "Farm Practice and Fertilizers as Insecticides." The nature of the paper is well indicated by its title. A number of instances were pointed out where variation in farm practice produces excellent insecticide results, and others in which commercial or artificial fertilizers destroy subterranean insects as well as invigorate the crop. The intelligent use of fertilizers combined with other intelligent farm practice, in his opinion will in the future prove the main reliance of the farmer. He showed, however, that the phosphates form a group of fertilizers which have no insecticide value.

Messrs. Garman and Webster discussed this paper, and agreed that the main beneficial results in the use of artificial fertilizers are due to the increased vigour of the plant, enabling it to better resist the attacks of insects. They doubted the primary insecticide effect of these compounds.

The above papers were all read at the first session of the Association, on the afternoon of August 14. At the second session, on the morning of the 15th, letters were read from certain foreign entomologists regretting their inability to attend the meeting.

Mr. Garman presented a paper on the "Preservation of Larvæ for Study." He drops the larva into water heated to the boiling point, leaving it for 15 seconds. Then, when the body wall is somewhat rigid, he takes it up with the forceps, and with a fine sharp scissors cuts a slit along the underside of the body, dropping it into the water again for a few seconds longer. It is then transferred to 50% alcohol, and in 12 hours to 70%, and in 12 hours afterwards to 95%, for permanent preservation.