

Mr. BILLUPS.—Don't you think it has often an opposite effect—that it harbors them?

The SECRETARY.—You must be careful to take out any borers before you put the earth around about the trees. If they have been exposed during the season the borer ought to be dug out in the autumn or early spring and the trees then banked up and left so during June, July and August, when the moth is flying around seeking a place to deposit its eggs.

A MEMBER.—How do you cultivate low-headed trees?

The SECRETARY.—I manage to get quite near them. I suppose the trunk will be two and a half or three feet from the ground, and then by keeping them well cut back the branches get bushy and you can get pretty close to them, especially if your harness is adapted for the work.

Mr. BILLUPS.—Is it an established fact that the moth of the borer places the eggs upon the stem of the tree or in the earth surrounding the tree. In the little experience I have had I have generally found the borer a little below the surface of the ground. The moth certainly cannot find its way under the ground to deposit its eggs.

The SECRETARY.—I think, though I won't say positively, that it is deposited in the tender bark near the surface of the earth, where the root begins, but I have noticed that when the larva becomes full grown it emerges from the tree and transforms in the castings outside.

#### FRUIT CULTURE IN THE NIAGARA DISTRICT.

The PRESIDENT.—I find on the programme for discussion the following question: "Is fruit culture on the increase or the decrease in the Niagara District, and is fruit growing more profitable than grain and root crops, taking into consideration the large amount of labor, attention and fertilisers required for the fruit crop, the insect enemies, off years of bearing, etc?"

Mr. COURNEEN.—There is no doubt that fruit culture is on the increase.

Mr. BALL.—Last year there was more fruit shipped from the township of Niagara than from the next two counties to it.

Archdeacon McMURRAY.—There have been tens of thousand of peach trees put out this spring within three or four miles of this place.

The PRESIDENT.—The fact that it is on the increase may be taken as an indication that it is more profitable, but the question is whether it is more profitable when the amount of labor expended and the losses of one kind or other are taken into consideration.

Mr. BALL.—A few years ago all you could get for land here was \$50 per acre, but now no person would think of asking less than \$100 per acre or over for land suited for fruit culture.

Mr. MORRIS.—The planting of fruit is very much on the increase every year.

Mr. NELLES.—I think it pays. We have a very fair crop every year. This is the first year we have missed having an average crop, and this spring we felt sure of having an immense crop.

The SECRETARY.—What do you reckon is the average profit of an acre of peaches?

Mr. NELLES.—I have not figured it down that fine.

Mr. MORRIS.—We have an orchard of four acres of peaches, all the varieties we can get hold of, and one year we had \$1,500 off that four acres. If the peaches had all been of one profitable variety we would have made three times as much as that, for many of the varieties did not pay anything at all. That orchard is about five years old. It is true that it has not since produced anything so good, but I think this year it is going to do fully as well.