

such time as arrangements can be made for their permanent location in the Botanic garden. Large quantities of the seeds of our local forest trees were collected and planted in the autumn, as well as others received from different parts of the Dominion. A large collection of seeds of indigenous plants of all kinds has been got together, either collected by the officers or presented to the institution by sympathisers outside. As soon as circumstances will permit, the work of laying out such part of the Arboretum and Botanic garden as you may decide upon, will be pushed forward with vigour. The plants and seeds now in hand form the nucleus of a nice and interesting collection. Collections of seeds have been received from the Department of Agriculture, Washington, U. S. A.; the Arnold Arboretum, Boston, U. S. A.; the Royal Gardens, Kew, England; the Imperial Gardens, Tokio, Japan; and Dr. Regel, of St. Petersburg, Russia.

Promises of co-operation and assistance, accompanied by collections of native seeds, have been received from Mr. J. Walker, of Calgary, Mr. N. H. Cowdry, of Macleod, N.W.T., and Rev. W. A. Burman, of Griswold, Manitoba.

Particular attention will be paid to the examination and cultivation of our native grasses. Many of the seeds collected by yourself in the North-West Territories last year, from apparently desirable species, are already planted, and give promise of satisfactory results. As relating to this subject, I beg to repeat some words used by Prof. Macoun, when transmitting a large collection of seeds and bulbs which he had gathered for us in British Columbia: "I am delighted that you are going to grow these plants. It is the only way to understand some of our difficult species, and I have no doubt that before very long you will be able to solve in this way, many of the difficult problems which now bother us. The botanist who often has to work with imperfect and badly-preserved specimens, will now be able to examine the plants at all stages of growth. I wish you every success, and believe that your farm will be a great benefit to the country and to science."

In addition to the above, reference collections of preserved entomological and botanical specimens will of course be necessary for the advantageous prosecution of entomological and botanical work. Temporary cases have already been provided, for the former, and no effort will be wanting on my part to build up, with all expedition, a collection, showing the injurious and beneficial insects which affect our crops.

The value of having an extensive collection of our indigenous Canadian plants is easily apparent. Already numerous enquiries have been received concerning the identity and economic uses of wild plants, and it is most desirable that all such enquiries should receive prompt answers. To further this end, which I consider one of great importance, I have much pleasure in presenting to the farm museum my own Herbarium, comprising upwards of 3,000 species, collected in Canada, mainly by myself.

I beg also to announce that Dr. Selwyn, the Director of the Geological and Natural History Survey, has kindly given Prof. Macoun permission to fill up many of the deficiencies from the duplicates of his own vast collections in the National Museum, as soon as our museum is built and we are in a position to receive and preserve the specimens. Similar promises have been received from Dr. T. J. W. Burgess, of Hamilton, and Mr. J. Dearness, of London, Ont. Some rare species have already been received from the latter gentleman.

The acknowledgment of the importance of economic entomology and the allied sciences is daily becoming more apparent. These investigations for many years (with the notable exception of Miss Ormerod's excellent work in England) were almost entirely confined to this continent. Now, however, systematic study of insects and plants is being carried on, with the object of obtaining remedies for injurious species, in many parts of the world. In England, by Miss Ormerod, who continues to issue her most excellent annual reports, as well as smaller pamphlets, whenever occasion calls for them. In the same country there has appeared from the pen of Mr. C. Whitehead, a series of five reports on insects injurious to the leading crops. These reports have a peculiar value, from the fact that their author is not only a good