to find, if possible, any connection with roots of other plants. While awaiting the examination new stems grew up and *developed*. This points to the view that the plant can do what it is frequently assumed a plant without chlorophyll cannot do.

Here is an opportunity for our club. During the coming summer all our members should keep a sharp watch on *Monotropa uniflora*, and by careful removal from the soil endeavour to trace any connection between it and its host, if it has any. Attempts should also be made to grow the plant from the seed and then try to make out its history; and by transplanting specimens and growing them in pots show whether they can live and grow independent of any connection with another living plant.

In the discussion which followed the reading of Dr. Baptie's paper, Mr. Fletcher said that he thought the subject a very useful one, because it gave the members an opportunity for investigation during the coming season. Conspicuous objects in the woods in spring were the beautiful seedlings of the beech, the plant upon which *M. uniflora* was alleged to be parasitic. These could be easily transplanted and grown in pots until the seeds of monotropa were mature, which might then be planted in the pot, some on the roots and some sprinkled on the soil. Careful attention would then surely reveal something of its nature. It was possible, he thought, that seeds might be found in the old pods of last year, if so the experiment might begin much earlier in the year. He suggested that parasites such as *M. uniflora*, where no connection could be detected between the mass of roots and any living plant, might be biennials, parasitic in the true sense for the first year, when all the energy of the plant was devoted to storing up a supply of nourishment underground, as do carrots, parsnips and other tuberous-rooted biennials. Subsequently the connection with the host-plant might decay leaving merely a mass of roots, at some little distance therefrom, stored with stolen nourishment, from which in the second year would be thrown up the flower-stems. Such a mode of growth would account for Dr. Baptie's plant continuing to develope after removal from its natural habitat.