

no knowledge before. The worst weeds were hung in a conspicuous place across the front of the building, and every weed that is known as a pest and injurious to the crops was represented.

Mr. Braithwaite spent three or four days before the exhibition in collecting specimens for inspection. Rev. W. A. Burman also did special work of value for the department, and the information which was given was very largely sought after and taken advantage of, and the Minister of Agriculture for Manitoba, I believe, has made arrangements for a repetition of the exhibition this year. A full report of this effort will be published by the Hon. Mr. Greenway.

By Mr. Featherston :

Q. What about the French weed, some people object to that name?

A. I do not wonder. As I told them in Manitoba a few years ago I do not see why this weed should not be called the English, Irish, Scotch or German weed as well as French. The first year I lectured on weeds for the Manitoba Government was just after the present government came into power; it was said, now, there is a French Canadian Premier here, we have the government botanist going up there to Manitoba and telling them that the Stink Weed is not to be called French weed any more, but he has orders to call it by a new name. Of course, this was nonsense, but if there is anything in a name Stink Weed is just the name for this plant as any one can prove for himself by rubbing some in his hands and smelling it. Why it should be called "French weed" I do not know, and I do not wonder that any people object to have their national name applied to a plant which is simply a curse to the province, besides it is just as likely to have originally come from England or Germany as from France.

Q. Some of these people are very sensitive?

A. They are. It takes a very little thing sometimes to make people think something might be done another way and this is one of them. But this time these objections have reason on their side. French weed does not describe the plant accurately and stink weed does.

Having read the preceding transcript of my evidence, I find it correct.

JAMES FLETCHER,
*Entomologist and Botanist to the
Dominion Experimental Farms.*