

Mr. Groh told of his study of the local hawthorns during the past summer. He examined fifty trees in different localities and collected flowering specimens of them, and later in the season obtained fruit as well. He found a marked difference in the number of stamens, styles and colour of the anthers of the flowers, and the number of flowers to a corymb, on different trees. The specimens, together with those collected by Prof. Macoun, have been sent to a specialist on *Crataegus*. Prof. Macoun stated that when collecting in western Ontario some years ago he had found that there was a month's difference between the time when the earliest blooming species of *Crataegus* flowered, and the latest. At Ottawa he had found in 1903 that the earliest bloomed on May 21st and the latest on June 3rd. He reported that he had completed the List of the Ottawa Flora from the lower forms up to the Caryophyllaceae.—W. T. M.

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#### SOIREES.

The opening soiree of the Club for the season of 1909-10 held on the 14th of December, was of the nature of a *conversazione*. The first hour was devoted to a display of objects under the microscope and of natural history specimens. Afterwards short addresses were delivered by the President, Mr. A. E. Attwood, Mr. G. H. Clark and Mr. A. Halkett. Besides these a short talk, illustrated with lantern slides, showing the development and structure of the cell, was given by Mr. A. H. W. Cleave.

Several microscopes were very kindly loaned for the evening by Mr. J. W. Gibson, of the Normal School. Besides these Messrs. Cleave and Odell each had their own microscopes present and showed interesting objects to those attending the meeting. Mr. W. J. Wilson also took charge of one of the microscopes and entertained many.

The following exhibits were of much interest:—

Mr. Geo. Michaud, of the Seed Branch of the Department of Agriculture, showed

1. A set of old coloured plates of plants, taken from a botanical magazine published in London in the year 1790. These plates are remarkable from the point of view of the colour, which is all made by hand. Each plate is accompanied by a botanical description of the plant. The sets contain three or four plates with the text and were sold for one shilling each.

2. A set of the lithographic plates of "Farm Weeds," published by the Seed Branch of the Department of Agriculture, 1906 and 1909. These plates, which were painted by Mr. Norman