

and that the use of poisons was a grave mistake. He was very much gratified with the account of the methods adopted at Washington, and hoped that they would be developed to the utmost.

Mr. Fletcher, in reply, said that we could not possibly ignore the great value of poisons as remedies against noxious insects; that it was absolutely necessary to use them until we can depend upon the parasites; and that even if we had the parasites at work upon our destructive insects they might at any time be swept away through a mildew or blight, and we should be left at the mercy of the enemy. He had been in correspondence with Mr. Whitehead in England in order to procure the parasite of *Diplosis*, but unfortunately this gentleman was ill and unable to carry out the project. He had found nearly all the specimens of scale-insects (*Aspidiotus*) sent to him from British Columbia were parasitized, but had never found one affected in this way in Ontario.

Dr. Brodie thought that the farming community could never be brought to adopt scientific methods for the protection of their crops till they had suffered from a sweeping destruction. He referred, as an example, to the ravages of the wheat midge some years ago. In the County of York it wrought so much havoc that the wheat fields were deserted and left to the cattle; a day's threshing would produce two bushels of midges and no grain. When their crops were all destroyed then they were willing to resort to remedies, chief among which were the employment of the "midge-proof wheat" for seed, a judicious rotation of crops, and planting too early or too late to suit the habits of the midge. The introduction of new varieties of wheat was the principal means of getting rid of the pest. He wished that the farmers might lose all their potatoes in order that they might be led by this severe lesson to give up the use of Paris green and adopt scientific means of saving their crops.

After some further discussion, in the course of which the value of various poisons, such as arsenical preparations, hellebore, kerosene, etc., in checking insect ravages was insisted upon, the subject dropped.

Dr. White exhibited to the meeting some cheap wood cuts in outline of botanical subjects that were used in illustration of popular articles in "School Work and Play," and recommended that something similar should be done in order to popularise entomology. He said that specimens were first photographed upon zinc plates instead of glass, and, in