

A discussion on the subject of thorns and spines was introduced by Mr Campbell, who had specimens of the thorns of *Gleditschia triacanthos*. There seemed a doubt as to whether this tree bore thorns or spines, but the conclusion reached was that whereas some of the younger thorns, which were really from supernumerary buds, resembled spines, not having a marked connection at first with the woody tissue, the older thorns were undoubtedly true thorns.

There was a number of interesting specimens shown by Dr. Fletcher, who referred briefly to each one of them. Among these was an interesting crab apple from British Columbia, apparently a natural hybrid between *Pyrus rivularis* and the apple, which had been sent by Mr. Orion Bowman, Upper Sumas, B.C. The fruit was larger than *rivularis*, being $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches long by a little over one inch in diameter, and of better quality. *Egopodium Podagraria variegatum* which was shown is a variegated leaved plant found in many gardens, but the name of which is known by very few, as is shown by the frequent inquiries. *Matricaria inodora*, which is a weed in the Maritime Provinces, was shown by Dr. Fletcher to make a good cut flower, lasting a long time in water. He also had specimens of American mistletoe, *Arceuthobium Americanum*, parasitic on *Pinus contorta*, from British Columbia, Indian corn showing abnormal cobs among the male inflorescence or tassel. Some fine water color paintings of Manitoba wild flowers were also exhibited by Dr. Fletcher, framed in the method known as *passepapier*, which the exhibitor thought was worth bringing before the section as a very cheap and efficient way of saving such drawings and paintings as frequently come into the hands of a botanist.

The chairman read an article developing the economic aspect of Nature Study, and invited criticisms of the same. An animated discussion on the whole subject of Nature Study followed.

Prof. Macoun said that he had collected 958 species of flowering plants in the Ottawa district this year. Those present at this, the ninth meeting of the year, were Dr. Wm. Saunders, Prof. J. Macoun, Dr. J. Fletcher, Mr. A. E. Attwood, Mr. D. A. Campbell, Mr. C. Guillet, Dr. E. Blackadar, Mr. St. Jacques, Mr. J. M. Macoun and the chairman.

W. T. M.