

or more later than the other acaulescent violets.

*V. Macounii* is not mentioned in Gray's Manual. It is, however, a well defined species, growing on limestone foundation. It differs from all other acaulescent violets in having *all* petals hairy on the inside. (The other species have at most three petals hairy on the inside).

Regarding *V. Fletcheri*, its specific value is less clear and the opinion was expressed that it might turn out to be *V. septentrionalis* out of place.

Under the second division of the stemless violets, i.e., those which possess rootstocks which are long and filiform, seven species have been recorded from the Ottawa district. Of those the following were demonstrated and explained at the meeting, viz., *V. pallens* (Banks) Brain, *V. blanda* Willd and *V. renifolia* Gray.

The specimens of *V. pallens* presented at the meeting were collected at Blueberry Point by Messrs. Macoun and Malte. When collecting the specimens it was noticed that among the typical plants were growing individuals, characterized by having much larger flowers and by being much hairier all over. In other respects they resemble *V. pallens* very closely, and the opinion was expressed that they represent a hairy variety of *V. pallens* not sufficiently distinct from that species to be considered a species of its own.

An interesting discussion took place regarding the biology of violets, it being explained that while, in the acaulescent species, seed usually was produced from cleistogamous flowers developed after the showy spring flowers had disappeared, it was occasionally found that plenty of seed could be produced by the spring flowers which generally are sterile. Such a phenomenon had been observed, during one season, by Mr. Macoun to be quite frequent in *V. Macounii*.

One of the most interesting features in connection with the discussion of the evening was the exhibit and examination of a strange form which was believed to be a hybrid between *V. cucullata* and *V. septentrionalis*. An examination of the pollen by Dr. Malte had shown that at least 90% of this was undeveloped. Undeveloped pollen is an indication of hybridity.

Before closing the discussion, Dr. Malte announced that Mr. Macoun and he were arranging to study the different species and forms of violets during the fruiting season, and to note any peculiarities which might be utilized in distinguishing the different species. Any observation of value might be used, if necessary, in connection with the key to the genus, which key, it was hoped, would be available for distribution before the violet season opens next spring.

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