

parent—which are ready to open, and dust the pollen over the pistils. Cover the flower with a close fitting paper bag, which is left on four or five days so as to leave no chance for fertilization by wind or insects. Gauze bags are then placed over the young fruit, and retained there until the fruit ripens. The seed is then carefully washed out and planted, and every seedling produces some fruit, possibly each one different. Perhaps only one in a thousand will produce a good hardy variety; but one such occasionally amply repays for the trouble, and no limit can be definitely placed in this line of research, time alone can tell what can be done in that direction. The past and present seasons were both very dry, and the fruit trees and vines did not present so good an appearance as he would have desired.

Mr. James Fletcher was then called upon to say a few words. He was particularly engaged, in connection with his office at the farm, in entomological and botanical researches. Whilst, for accuracy's sake, the scientific aspect of the question was never lost sight of, he hoped to be able to show that the work done was pre-eminently of an economic nature. Besides the numerous problems of great interest to the student of nature, the practical requirements of a great country with agricultural capabilities such as Canada possessed, were the first to engage the attention. Science now-a-days no longer meant theory and speculation, but that word should be taken in its true sense as synonymous with knowledge. Whilst his researches in plant and insect life were closely related to each other in many respects, in some points they were quite different. An area of 65 acres had been appropriated on the farm for the purpose of laying out a Botanical Garden. This would be an object of special interest to the members of the club. He hoped by next year to have some work done on it to show scientific visitors. The land was being prepared and material was being gathered together. Large collections of seeds and plants had been sent to the Experimental Farm from all parts of the world, including many excellent things which would be of use in many parts of this country. Collections of young forest trees had been received and planted, France and Russia having contributed a large number, last autumn he had collected and had planted vast numbers of seeds of our most useful native trees. It was already necessary to replace