

Club owing to various causes which could not be avoided. He also drew attention to the advantages of the meetings which provided not only interesting reunions but also could with a little effort be of great assistance to the Editor of THE OTTAWA NATURALIST if the members would prepare short notes on botanical subjects to be read at the meetings and then published in the monthly magazine.

The chairman spoke of the Tarry Cockle, *Silene antirrhina* as a Farm weed in the West and also read some very interesting extracts from letters by Mr. W. Collingridge Bing of Castlegar, B.C., describing annoyance and losses in his poultry runs from the young chicks being caught and held fast prisoners by the tarry patches on the stems sticking to their down. Even a five weeks old chick is powerless to free itself if caught over the back. The weed is very abundant in his chicken run of 7 acres. Mr. James Macoun had seen the weed occurring in remarkable abundance in some parts of British Columbia.

Other remarkable weeds mentioned by the chairman were *Draba nemorosa*, *Draba Caroliniana* and *Corydalis aurea* all of which occurred on stubble field in Manitoba.

Mr. G. H. Clarke spoke of the abundance of the seeds of dodder in samples of alfalfa and other kinds of clover seed now being offered for sale. Owing to a shortage in the Canadian crop of 1906, a great deal of clover seed was being imported. From past experience, the speaker did not anticipate that there would be much trouble from dodder in Canadian fields although some species might persist for a time. Mr. Clarke also exhibited a full set of the beautiful plates by Norman Criddle for the illustrated bulletin on Farm Weeds of Canada which he hoped would soon be issued.

Prof. Macoun gave an excellent address on the value of critical study in botany instancing the remarkable number of new species of flowering plants detected by Prof. Fernald in a few weeks collecting in Lower Canada. The speaker urged the members to collect and study carefully all the local plants of the district. Many of the old species under critical study in all their parts had been found to cover several distinct species. Dr. H. M. Ami read an account of the Sugar Maple and the manufacture of Maple sugar from an old work published early in the last century. This article brought out a most interesting discussion on the general subject.

Dr. Ami also protested vigorously against private corporations as telegraph and telephone companies being allowed to cut and injure the shade trees which were such an attractive feature of many cities and which belonged to the public.

Mr. James Macoun reminded those present of an interesting lecture which would be delivered in Ottawa on May 31 by Dr. Pollard on the work of the Wild-flower Preservation Society. J. F.