

per acre, he will have little difficulty keeping his weeds under control. The trouble with many of us is that we are gambling with acreage, rather than farming with intelligence. (See, also, Nos. 16, 18, 19, 41, 78, 82.)

**80. Q.** When a weed inspector is giving notice has he authority to extend the limit of five days, as mentioned in the Act?

**A.** The spirit of the Act calls upon the inspector to use discretion and common sense in the performance of his duty and, wherever desirable, he can give more time by dating the notice in advance of the time it is served. The five days' grace commences from the date of the notice. (See, also, Nos. 8, 13, 14, 21, 31, 72.)

**81. Q.** A whole farm badly infested with weeds and the remainder of the neighbourhood fairly clean, owners poor but seem to be doing their best—what action should the inspector take?

**A.** If the man is doing his best and working along the proper lines, leave him alone, except in as far as you are able to suggest to him better methods. If he is not doing good work, and doesn't care, then lay out a system of summerfallowing that will lead to the control of the weeds. Have a quarter or a third of the land done each year, and see that it is done right. (See, also, Nos. 2, 6, 7, 23, 63, 91.)

**82. Q.** Can an inspector stop the sowing of dirty seed?

**A.** There is no section of the Act which gives direct authority to the inspector to stop the sowing of dirty seed. There are several ways in which such a problem might be handled, however. One is prosecution under section 5, because a man who sows dirty seed, when he could just as easily get clean seed, is not doing all in his power to keep his weeds under control. The man in question can be given to understand what he will be up against under section 6 of the Act, if he sows the dirty seeds. (See, also, Nos. 16, 41, 79.)

This question has been asked many times as to the value of The Noxious Weeds Act if there is no authority to get at the root of the problem and stop the sowing of dirty seed. There does not seem to be an adequate answer, but recently the department circularised most municipal councils of the province on this question, and there was not a great deal of support in favour of legislation on this question. Reasons given for lack of support were:

- (a) A municipality with a man in the field to inspect seed grain during the winter and assist in finding good seed, could practically stop the sowing of dirty seed without special legislation;
  - (b) Some felt that the land belonged to the owner and if he were foolish enough to sow poor seed, when better could be obtained, well, the land was his own and his to do as he liked with;
  - (c) That there was more authority in the Act at present than could be safely trusted in the hands of many municipal inspectors, and there was too much danger of legislation of this nature being abused to warrant its adoption at present.
- Aside from all this, however, the writer personally believes that there is no reason at all why a municipality employing a qualified