

The next chapter is a short and concise account of weed dissemination, which will well repay careful reading by all those interested in the improvement of agricultural conditions. There is also presented a concise account of the various chemical herbicides which have proven efficient in the control of certain obnoxious weeds.

Following these introductory chapters is the main part of the book,—the descriptive list and means of control. The plants are arranged according to families, the ferns, horsetails, grasses being discussed first. The nomenclature of Gray's Manual, seventh edition, is used throughout. Under each plant there is given its common and scientific name, and the following valuable information is printed in smaller type at the beginning of the discussion,—other English names native or introduced; annual, biennial or perennial; how propagated; time of bloom; seed time; range; habitat. Then follows a discussion of the plant itself, its characteristics, mode of growth, methods of reproduction, and any other important facts deemed necessary for a clear conception of the weed under discussion. The means of control are given as fully as possible, and all sources of information seem to have been fully consulted. The three hundred and eighty-six illustrations should aid greatly in identification. In all, five hundred and twenty-eight weeds are fully discussed.

The book concludes with a bibliography, a list of weeds known to be poisonous or mechanically harmful to animal life, an excellent glossary of terms, and a well arranged index.

The scientific accuracy of the book is excellent. Thus we have an authoritative book on this important subject, which should prove of great value not only to agricultural colleges, high and normal schools giving courses in agriculture, individual farmers, but also to nature study teachers in our common schools, who are always on the search for non-technical subject matter presented in an accurate and readable form. It is to be hoped that the material contained in this book will be used by the grade teachers in widening the scope of their subject matter.

ROBERT MATHESON.

Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

December, 1914

### BOY SCOUTS AND THE WAR.

The fact that Boy Scouts in England and on the Continent are doing good work in the war, has given fresh impetus to the organizations in Canada. The Canadian General Council of the Boy Scout's Association has sent a travelling secretary, Mr. F. R. Perrott, of Ottawa, to the Maritime Provinces to organize Scout Bands and to stir up the interest of the public. New Brunswick has already added about 150 new scouts to her bands. The following account of the activities of the boys will be of interest: Some thousands of Scouts are actively employed in England, France and Belgium along the lines indicated by Baden Powell in his original order. All Scouts employed are recognized by the government or police departments and are paid a shilling a day. In regard to their official standing, a bulletin was issued stating that "Scouts have been recognized by the government as a non-military body, and no Scout or Scout officer in uniform must on any account carry arms." Further, it is stated that "The uniform of the Boy Scouts (B. P. hat or sea scout cap, and official fleur de lys badge essential), is recognized by His Majesty's government as the uniform of a public service, non-military body." Among the services rendered by the Boy Scouts in England, are those of two thousand who are watching the telegraph wires to prevent them from being tapped. Another body went into the country and helped with the harvesting. Others are in camp watching and patrolling an aircraft factory. At Wolverhampton, under the suggestion of Sir Richard Paget, each Scout has undertaken to raise six chickens to help the food supply, while in another district all the waste land has been planted by the Scouts with turnips for the same purpose. They have helped the Prince of Wales with his National Relief Fund; made bandages; sixty of them, all cyclists, have relieved the telegraph department, overwhelmed with work; and another public department required the services of one hundred Scouts continuously for a week. In France their work has been confined largely to Red Cross work. In Canada, they have also helped in the work in various ways of the organization. In Belgium, they are apparently divided into two classes, one serving at the front as volunteers, the other doing non-military work, but the