

to be found in this weeder question alone; I have seen such remarkable results from harrowing and weeding. The advantage is not only in the increase of grain reaped, but also in the absence of weed seeds from the grain. It is a business matter. A man who is buying wheat looks at the sample. He sees it is a good sample, but if he finds the seed of weeds in it he says 'It is pretty weedy isn't it?' As a matter of business he tries to buy at the lowest figure and will take advantage of any excuse to reduce the price he offers. The farmer will get better prices with less trouble in handling it when his wheat is free from weed seeds, and the whole country will derive a benefit. The use of weeders is, I believe, better farming than spraying and of greater value to the crop than any other method suggested as a substitute. I spoke at some length on this subject last week, so I will not delay the committee longer now.

*By Mr. Featherston :*

Q. I have tried the harrow and found that it never hurt the crop; a big heavy diamond harrow?

A. Yes. An argument in favour of harrowing is the well recognised benefit that operation is to a crop of Indian corn. Is there a man in the country, to-day, who does not harrow his corn after it is up? Some years ago, if any man had harrowed his corn people would have said he was crazy, but to-day they would be more apt to say it of the man who did not harrow his corn.

*By Mr. Richardson :*

Q. Of course the harrow won't do in rocky land?

A. No; the method is particularly applicable in the West, where the land is light and free from stones; but in some of that wild rose country I referred to, they have had good effects from using the weeder, notwithstanding the bother given by the woody roots of the roses.

*By Mr. Bell (Addington) :*

Q. You cannot harrow any land in crop that has rolling stones on it?

A. Certainly not.

#### RIB GRASS.

*By Mr. Erb :*

Q. I would like to ask if anything could be done for the Rib Grass in pastures; that is, permanent pastures that you don't want to plough up?

A. Yes, I understand. I don't think there is anything you can do. Of course sheep like the plant. It is a perennial plant which roots close to the surface, and if ploughed down and the land reseeded, it would be clean for some time. That is the only treatment I can suggest. The seed of this plant is generally introduced in clover seed, and I am afraid it is spreading in the country through that means. You find the seed quoted for sale in many of the English and French catalogues, where it is advertised as a crop for sheep, and these animals certainly like it; it is a troublesome weed, however, where clover is grown for seed.

*By Mr. Cochrane :*

Q. Is it not a fact that the seed of the Ox-eye Daisy will lie in the land for a number of years and not germinate?

A. I do not know that about the Ox-eye Daisy, but I know it is true in regard to mustard.

Q. I know if you have a field with Ox-eye Daisy in it, and cultivate it even with corn, and then seed it down, you will have Ox-eye Daisy again. I know as a fact that where the seed of the Ox-eye Daisy had got into a field and it was planted

with cor  
down an

A. ?  
of cleani  
told me

Q. A  
A. Y

Q. D  
A. W

legislation  
Inspector  
some farm  
land. Thi  
very busy.

done, but t  
weeds out  
the weed I

Q. The

A. Yes

country is v  
important  
fallowing is  
fences and f  
difficult to k  
strict law an  
there than in

The CH

Thistle that  
out?

A. In ve

Having re  
the same to be