

BOOK NOTICE.

"Farm Weeds of Canada," by George H. Clark, B.S.A., and James Fletcher, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.L.S., with illustrations by Norman Criddle: Dominion Department of Agriculture, Branch of the Seed Commissioner.

This long looked for, beautifully illustrated bulletin, quite recently made its appearance. In his letter of transmittal to the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture, Seed Commissioner Clark draws attention to the enormous losses which are every year caused by noxious weeds, and mentions briefly some of the many means by which they become disseminated. It is pleasing to note that the three men who prepared this bulletin are all active members of the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club. The text of the bulletin is written by Dr. James Fletcher, our leading authority on the subject. In the introductory chapter the importance is pointed out of knowing a weed when seen, and calling it by its true name, not necessarily the botanical name, but the name it is known by and written about in agricultural publications. Under each botanical family the chief Canadian weeds are treated of with remedies, and a coloured life-sized plate is given of each. In all there are 56 plates, 51 of the most important weeds, 1 showing three grasses attacked by ergot, and 4 of the chief weed seeds found in commercial grains. On these latter 4 plates, 80 weed seeds are shown in colours, at natural size and enlarged so as to show each seed as it appears under the ordinary pocket magnifying glass used by farmers and seedsmen. The bulletin is beautifully printed and gotten up, and much credit is due to all concerned in its preparation. It will be of immense value to the farmers of Canada in acquainting them with the pernicious weeds on their farms and how to eradicate them. To the botanist too it will be a welcome addition to the literature. As a government publication it stands in a class by itself, and is undoubtedly one of the very best contributions on the subject which has yet appeared.

A. G.