

The unprecedented cold and backward Spring, all over the northern part of this continent has been the cause of much discussion among weather men and the public generally, and no doubt ornithologists have noticed the effect the unusual conditions have had in the arrival of Spring birds.

Having taken notes on the arrival of Spring birds for the past fifteen years, on and between the Red Deer and Battle rivers, in 113 degrees of West Longitude as a centre, I find they are later this Spring than in any other year. It seems strange also, that the two extremes should be reached in the two years 1907 and 1906: arrivals in 1906 were earlier than in any other year since my arrival here.

ERUCA SATIVA, MILL.

Mr. J. Dearnness has sent from London, Ont. to the herbarium of the Geological Survey specimens of *Eruca sativa* which may become a very troublesome weed in Canada. Mr. Poland, Yarmouth township, Elgin county, has written Mr. Dearnness that this weed came to him and to a neighbour of his as an impurity in alfalfa seed, that it was scattered all over the field in which the alfalfa was planted, and that when he had pulled out all he could see it made a heap as large as half a ton of hay. Later he cut the tops off plants that had been missed, and these on October 15th were again making considerable show in parts of the field.

Since the above note was in type specimens have also come to us from Mr. T. N. Willing, Chief Inspector of Weeds for the Province of Saskatchewan. The seed from which these plants grew came from Russia mixed with alfalfa seed. The home of *Eruca sativa* is along the Mediterranean. It is not indigenous in Russia and must be growing there as a weed.

J. M. M.