

our farmers in the better parts of Canada. Millers tell me that they are getting much cleaner grain now from southern Manitoba. The farmers have learned that it will pay them to get rid of these weeds, and their industry has proved to them the truth of what had been told them, namely, that with care every weed could be eradicated.

By Mr. McMillan :

The Morning Glory.—Q. We have a creeping weed with a little pink flower; do you know what it is?

A. Is the flower about an inch across like a small Morning Glory?

Mr. ERB.—It is a wild Morning Glory. We have it in our neighborhood and it is a very bad one.

Mr. FLETCHER.—It is one of the worst weed pests and one of the most persistent which has been introduced from Europe. I am trying some treatment this year with salt to see if I can find a means of eradicating it. It does not produce in this country very many seeds or flowers, but it has an enormous development of underground stems. I have a specimen in my office, the underground stems of which are over four feet in length. The underground system of stems and roots is very extensive and leaf-bearing shoots are thrown up freely all over the patch when once established. We have a patch on the farm which we have been fighting for three years, and we have found that it is one of the most persistent weeds, and none of the treatments in the way of applying salt or chemicals have succeeded so far, but we hope soon to get a remedy.

The Perennial Sow-thistle.—There is another weed, which is rightly causing much alarm among farmers, the Perennial or Field Sow-thistle. This generally makes its appearance on a farm in a more or less restricted patch; each plant will throw out fifteen or twenty shoots around a central stem which bears three or four large conspicuous flowers about the size of those of the ordinary dandelion, these also develop large quantities of seeds which when ripe will be blown in every direction. It is an extremely persistent weed and very hard to fight. I know of one instance where a patch was smothered out by piling straw on the top of it. We sometimes use a pile of manure and that will smother anything.

By Mr. Parmelee :

Hard Hack Weed.—Q. Have you any treatment for the Hard Hack weed?

A. None, except pulling it out and burning it. Mowing seems impossible. The stems are so hard that it would be just about like mowing wire. Luckily it grows in patches with the roots close to the surface, and with gloves it can be pulled out by hand. We get a large number of enquiries about it. It is not a serious matter to pull out even a big patch by hand, but when it covers large areas this is very expensive. Stock does not seem to eat it, except when it is very young.

Q. Does it occur elsewhere?

A. Yes in Ontario; but not as a troublesome weed. In British Columbia there is a closely allied species, Douglas's Spirea, which is sometimes troublesome. Hard hack is a pest in the Eastern Townships owing to the climate there being very suitable for its vigorous growth. The same reason allows the Scented Fern (*Dicksonia*) to become a weed, while in Ontario it is in most places rare.

DESTRUCTIVE INSECT PESTS.

San José Scale.—I will now refer to one or two insects which are very destructive. I have here specimens of the celebrated San José Scale, probably one of the most injurious insects known on fruit trees. The piece of limb I have here is encrusted all over with this scale, but the insects are so inconspicuous that, although there are thousands of specimens, unless looked for very closely they might be easily overlooked. This character of being hard to notice until the scales become very abundant is one of the great dangers with regard to this pest, because it may be introduced into a new locality, get established

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