

on the part of the track men and the construction of a better class of car, are the important precautions to be adopted against weed distribution by railways. Weed seeds from their droppings, or from the hay used by canal tow-horses may introduce noxious plants into new districts, while the roadside weeds are carried long distances by the animals or vehicles travelling over them, and it has been found necessary in many municipalities to enforce their destruction by law.

Of the precautions to be taken against the various other distributing agents of man, only brief observations can be here given. A few minutes spent in removing roots, stems or bulbs, found clinging to the projecting points of borrowed or returned implements, may save hours of costly work in destroying the injurious plants which these will probably produce during the next season. The careful farmer will have that fertile source of weed seeds, the threshing machine, thoroughly cleaned before allowing it to come on his farm. His near brothers, the orchardist and the horticulturist, have learned from experience that such reproducing parts should be removed from nursery stock before setting out, and their experience could be well heeded by all. The floriculturist has, to our sorrow, introduced such plants as the Ox-eye Daisy as ornamentals, while the vegetable gardener first cultivated as useful herbs Wild Garlic and Chicory; such inroads of weeds as these are practically impossible to guard. As regards their likelihood of introducing new weeds too much cannot be said against the practice of buying manure from city liveries, or the use of purchased baled hay. If you would block this line of attack the manure must be thoroughly heated, and, to prevent loss in buying, have it heated at the stables. There is really no efficient means of preventing the introduction of weeds in hay, though doubtless throwing out large weeds in baling would be a great benefit to purchasers. Last, but by no means least, may be mentioned farm fences as remarkable factors in the scattering of weeds. Fortunately modern rotations are making farm fences fewer and farther between. The days of the snake rail fence with its wide fence row are past, and in its place stands the wire structure with its single yard of room, or the light movable fence whose position is altered every year, and certainly the use of these will greatly deter the steady aggressiveness of our plant foes.