

been first found in the eastern provinces. Weed migration has followed the great rail and water transport ways. Man's machinery, man's steamboats, man's railroads and his common highways, his fences and one hundred and one other artificial agents have proven marvellously active weed disseminators. When we add to man's methods of weed distribution nature's own provisions for these her children, we begin to realize the difficulties of preventing the introduction of new weeds on our farms.

By no one means has the number of weeds in our country been so increased as by the sowing of unclean grains and grass seed. In our wheat is found that pest so resistant to measures of eradication, the chess, and that persistently rank grower, the corn cockle. The size and the variation in color of our clover seed affords an opportunity of encroachment for a whole host of the worst enemies of our crops, the list including Rib-grass, Wild Buckwheat, White Cockle, Ragweed, Prickly Lettuce, Peppergrass, Sheep Sorrel, Clover Fodder and Black Medick. Oats permit the entrance of their wild kin of bad repute, the Wild Oat, while many crops are the means of weed distribution. To prevent the sowing of weeds in seed grains and grasses we must recommend the sowing of only such seed as has been carefully cleaned, and in buying from seedsmen to purchase only from those using the most improved machinery. That such seed will cost more is apparent, but the importance of its freedom from noxious weeds is also evident to all who read this statement drawn from tests made by Prof. Panton,—a cheap grade of commercial clover seed contained on an average thirty-five hundred foreign seeds in one ounce, while that ordinarily sold by wholesale dealers did not average higher than ten. The importation of clover and grass seed from Europe is a practice now no longer necessary, and on account of this very danger, one to be discontinued. Moreover, if farmers would proceed definitely to select grains of their own growing, growing them perfectly free of weeds, and refusing exchanges with careless neighbors, a part of this problem would be satisfactorily solved.

Railways and other transportation lines are the next great artificial aids to weed dissemination. The ordinary stock car fairly strews the track with seeds which may have passed in the excrement of the animals or have fallen from the unclean hay in their mangers. The use of clean bedding, the utmost vigilance