

The Honourable  
The Minister of Agriculture,  
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit for your approval Bulletin No. 73 of the Experimental Farm Series, on Smut Diseases of Cultivated Plants, their Cause and Control, prepared by the Dominion Botanist, Mr. H. T. Güssow.

This publication deals with the identification, treatment for prevention and, in some measure, for eradication, of smut diseases of our common crops. These diseases work annually immense injury to Canadian agriculture, hence any reliable information on this subject that can be put into the hands of the farmer should be of great value to the country as well as to the individual. The extent of the injury wrought the farmer by these various smuts can be grasped only after one has observed their effects in particular instances and then paused to calculate the sum total of the losses. To such as have had opportunities of observing the losses caused by these fungi in both lessened yields and lowered grades of grain the estimate of \$15,000,000 loss to the Canadian farmer, per annum, will not seem in the least exaggerated. In my opinion, this bulletin should be very widely distributed throughout Canada but, of course, more particularly in the prairie provinces.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. H. GRISDALE,  
*Director, Dominion Experimental Farms.*

OTTAWA, March 25, 1913.