

of the shrunken grain, dirt and weed seeds out, so that the grain can be delivered to the farmer practically clean; not perhaps to the extent that a specially built fanning mill would, but sufficiently clean so that the crops of the country and the land can ultimately be practically cleared of those foul growths by the farmer exercising reasonable care to prevent these seeds from getting back into the soil. And if farmers would insist upon threshermen so cleaning their grain they would aid very materially in accomplishing just what your Department desires.

"This is accomplished simply by permitting the threshed grain before being delivered from the machine to pass over a sieve of proper mesh for the removal of these foreign items."

This opinion is supported by similar statements from practically all of the manufacturers of the threshing machines in common use in Western Canada. A few of these statements follow:—

1. "As a matter of fact under normal conditions the modern threshing machine, if properly handled, is capable of cleaning grain very well without having a special cleaning attachment, but this requires skill and care in the adjustment of the sieves and the fans and not crowding the separator to its fullest capacity, which the average thresher does not like to do, neither does the farmer because he wants the thresher to finish his job and get off the premises at the earliest possible moment."

2. "We have for some years been doing just what you asked for in supplying an attachment to our separators, which are shipped to the Argentine Republic, where I understand they have no elevators in which to clean the grain, but it is taken direct from the fields to the railways in bags and subsequently delivered on board vessels at the ports of shipment to Europe."

3. "The machines as constructed at present can clean the grain if they really have to, it consists of the way they are operated."

4. "We are aware of this and have been furnishing our machines with a screen in the bottom of the shoes of the separators where the grain travels over and the bulk of the seed is separated from the grain and comes out by itself."

5. "All the threshing machines that we make are fitted with a screen for taking the weed seeds out of the grain. In a number of cases we have found that the threshers have closed up this screen and are not using it. The screen consists of a $\frac{3}{32}$ inch perforated piece of zinc and will take out virtually all weed seeds that will pass through this size perforation. A larger perforation than this would allow small grains of wheat to go through. The machines are arranged to close off this screen when threshing flax, as a considerable amount of the small flaxseed will pass through this perforation."