throughout 'he first summer. The truth probably is that its mechanic condition is greatly impaired and will remain so until it has been summerfallowed. Breaking properly cond...ted is only a summerfallow ing of the prairie. If this operation, set in motion by the first ploug ing, is interrupted and suspended by the sowing of a crop and in subsequent growth, it is evident that the advantages and results of w summerfallow cannot be looked for. Moisture cannot be stored in the soil, decomposition of organic matter (roots, leaves, etc.) eannot proceed as quickly and generally and the preparation and storing up of available plant food cannot take place. These three processes, of vital importance, to succeeding crops, are almost dependent upon and inseparable from the summerfallow in the western half of Saskatchewan. If, instead of the summerfallow, flax is being grown, moisture used instead of stored decomposition arrested instead of hastened, and plant food assimilate by the crop instead of made ready in the soil-the effect upon succeed ing crops is almost certain to be felt. Should the months of June and July be wet in the following summer these ill effects that follow the growing of flax on newly ploughed breaking n ight not be met with otherwise they are almost certain to be in evid nce. In view of in it it worth the while of large companies and farmers having ce talmen who need not sacrifice the future to immediate returns-to soy even clean flaxsed upon their newly ploughed breaking?

## Flax and the Wire Worm.

Mention should be made, too, of the value of the flax e Saskatchewan as a means of circumventing the wire worm. On of the heavy soils of the province-notably in districts along the Line and the Outlook-Macklin branch of the Canadian Pacific Rai and the Goose Lake branch of the Canadian Northern Railwaypresence and activity of wire worms have made the successful growing of wheat during the first one or two years an uncertain undertaking The wire worms are the larvæ or an early stage in the development c eliek beetles. The eggs of these beetlet are laid about the roots of grasses and other plants and the wire worms which result from ther take two years to come to full growth. They are slender, yellowish shiny and tough with six legs under the fiont of the body and a sucke. like foot under the end. When full \$ ... we they are about an inch lon, and a twelfth of an inch wide. No treatment of seed grain has prove effective against these insects which eat right into the kernel of grain itself and do not feed upon the stems or other parts of the plants as d, most other insect pests. Wheat and oats are most subject to attack from wire worms, but, happily, flaxseed appears to be almost immune. What the reason or reasons for this immunity are we cannot state definitely but three present themselves for consideration. It may be that the flax seed itself by its smooth gelatinous exterior resists the attack of the win worm; it may be that the seed is distasteful to the worm; or it may be that the flaxseed being usually sown nearer the surface is out of th The fact that flax is practi sphere of activity of the insect in question. cally immune from this pest is an important one and has certainly bee. of untold benefit to many farmers in the areas referred to above.