

the bug does not occur. Where it does occur, it can to a very large extent be destroyed in the seed, and the crop grown from these seeds must be to that extent cleaner than where no precautions are taken.

*By Mr. Smith (Wentworth):*

Q. Can that be done in a bin ?

A. Undoubtedly, if they are tight bins. In some of the big houses they treat hundreds of bushels at a time in their 'bugging houses.'

Q. Suppose municipalities or a number of municipalities or a province would adopt a law compelling everybody to destroy the weevil in their crop ; would not that eradicate this pest, which is a very serious evil ?

A. United action is the thing most needed now. The Pea Weevil certainly can be destroyed in the seed, but it has got so firmly established that it will only be eradicated by stirring up every farmer who grows peas, to help to the extent of never sowing seed containing living weevils, to treat his own seed and insist on those who sell him seed doing the same, or refuse to buy from them, for there are several firms who do treat their seed properly before selling.

Q. If one crop is clean, will the weevil come from another farm ?

A. Yes, it will, to some extent.

*By Mr. Robinson (Elgin):*

Q. What is that remedy called ?

A. Bi-sulphide of carbon.

Q. Is it not dangerous for fire ?

A. Yes, it is. It is wise to exaggerate to some extent the dangers of any of these remedies, so as to prevent loss ; but I have found that this can be used with moderate caution. I would not fumigate pease in a house, but out of doors or under a covered shed away from buildings there is no fear of fire. The vapour is very inflammable, so no light must be brought near it when the work is being done.

*By Mr. Smith (Wentworth):*

Q. If a farmer did all you advise, still there would be very little chance of his crop remaining clean, unless all his neighbours took the same precaution ?

A. Not at first perhaps in an infested district ; but it would tell in time.

Q. It is very little use for one farmer to do it, unless his neighbours also do it ?

A. That is true. United action is most necessary, and that is the chief reason I bring it before this Committee and keep on speaking and writing about it every year, because there is an enormous amount of loss, and I am very sorry to see farmers proposing to give up the growing of such a valuable crop as peas when by everybody taking action it would be possible in time even to stamp the pest out. Prof. Lohead, the Ontario Government entomologist, is now discussing with me the best plan of bringing the matter before the country more prominently, so as, if possible, to get action taken in the matter by farmers. There is a good remedy, and the cultivated pea is the only known food of the insect.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. The conditions you mentioned about peas exist in our neighbourhood. In the township of Roach, and more particularly to the south, the farmers have given up growing peas altogether, and it is very unfortunate. They have been trying to treat seed with coal oil. They don't seem to have understood this other remedy, but that has had a very good effect. Of course, I suppose you would apply this gas that you speak of upon peas for seed, not upon peas for animals, would you ?

A. Yes. It would not injure the peas as food, in the least.