

to be given up for harvesting the seed, never produced more than 3,500 pounds in a season.

What is Needed

Any one who wishes to go into the Rhode Island bent seed gathering business has a wide, open field free from competition. But before attempting to harvest the seed, a first-class modern threshing outfit and a power cleaner should be provided. An experienced thresherman, preferably from the redtop area of southern Illinois, should be put in charge of the outfit. The rest of the labor needed can be supplied in New England, such as it is. It will not be necessary to buy an engine to run the threshing machine, as a Ford with one of the numerous "Helping Henry" devices for converting the "Lizzie" into a stationary engine, makes an ideal source of power, as it is highly essential to be able to regulate the speed of the cylinder of the threshing machine according to the condition of the grass.

Whether any one goes on with this work depends a great deal on the price which can be obtained for the seed. If there was any certainty of receiving \$1.00 or better a pound for the seed in New England, a great deal, I feel sure, would be harvested. Otherwise, I doubt if any further effort will be made in harvesting it. While this price may appear exorbitant compared with 45 cents a pound before 1914, yet much of that 45-cent seed was Illinois grown redtop which could have been bought as redtop for less than 20 cents a pound. The rest was harvested in southern Germany under conditions which do not prevail in this country. We really haven't had any Rhode Island bent on the market before for many years; so no comparison can be made.

One Thing Leads to Another

LYMAN CARRIER

The treatments to eradicate earthworms developed by golfers appear to offer a practical application connected with poultry raising. Recent investigations have demonstrated that earthworms are hosts to the eggs of the worms which cause gapes in chickens. The gapeworm is a parasite about one-half inch in length and hatches from eggs in the digestive tract of a small chick, afterwards reaching the windpipe, where it attaches itself to the inner lining. As it grows, especially if there are several gapeworms present, the chick has difficulty in breathing. The characteristic gaping is an effort to get air into the lungs. The rest of the life-cycle of the gapeworm is as follows. The worm grows from blood sucked from the chicken and becomes filled with eggs, the body bursting when mature. These eggs, if the chick has not died from suffocation in the meantime, are coughed out on the ground. The evidence does not indicate that chicks are directly infected with these eggs. But earthworms, in masticating the soil, pick them up; and when the earthworms are a little late in returning to their burrows after a night's carousel, or when they come to the surface for a breath of fresh air during rainy weather, they may be devoured by the chicks.

The only preventive remedy for gapeworms hitherto has been to keep the chicks off gape-infested land. It is generally considered that it takes three years to free a chicken run from gape infestation. By using some of the earthworm poisons it ought to be possible to clear the soil from this pest in a much shorter period of time.