

Teff hay can be carried long distances over rough roads or paddocks without much loss, as its constituent parts are not in the least brittle. The South African farmer finds that lucerne hay, even when in bales, loses a good deal of the leaf-growth during transit from farm to town, or from one part to another on the larger farms. It is also found that there is a greater loss of the more nutritive parts of lucerne hay after it is distributed to the stock than is the case with teff.

Teff has a great popularity for cleaning dirty lands, and I was frequently told that when allowed to germinate at the same time as prevalent weeds, such as amaranthus (pig-weed or Prince of Wales feathers), which is as troublesome in the Transvaal as in some parts of New Zealand, it invariably smothers the weeds in addition to giving a profitable yield of hay.

[NOTE.—A test plot is being sown in teff-grass by Mr. Dixon at Napier this autumn, and he intends making another sowing in the spring. Certain previous trials under New Zealand conditions have not been altogether favourable to teff for this country, and caution is suggested until further local experience is acquired.—EDITOR.]

THE MAIZE INDUSTRY.

A feeling of greater security is being given to the South African maize-growers by the erection in several towns of concrete grain-elevators, which consist of a number of storage bins—usually about twenty-four—each having a capacity of 40 tons, and half-a-dozen storage cylinders having about three times this capacity. In January of this year a conference was held at Johannesburg, attended by representatives of the South African Agricultural Union, the South African Maize-growers' Association, and the Central Agricultural Co-operative Society, to consider the organization of the maize industry on co-operative lines more or less similar to those of the Alberta Wheat Producers' Co-operative Association in Canada.

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS.

The work of the South African Department of Agriculture has mainly been in the direction of combating plant and animal diseases, and in improving and promoting the increase of plant and animal products. This year, however, has seen the creation of the Division of Agricultural Economics and Markets, of which Dr. F. Geldenhuys, of Bloemfontein, has been appointed chief. The work of this division will include the investigation of all kinds of economic questions associated with farming, marketing of crops, co-operation, farm-management, &c. Such questions as farm credits, tenant systems, and the social welfare of the farming population will be investigated.

VETERINARY RESEARCH AND TRAINING.

The numerous diseases prevalent among horses, mules, cattle, goats, and sheep in South Africa have caused the establishment of research institutions for the investigation of these diseases. The largest of these was visited—Onderstepoort Biochemical Research College, near Pretoria, which has four departments, one being a university school for students who have previously spent two years in the study of English, mathematics, and general subjects at some other university college, and have transferred to Onderstepoort to specialize as veteri-