As a farm crop the soy bean has had numerous advocates. Experiment stations have published favorable bulletins, popular writers have extolled its virtues, and successful farmers who commend it highly have not been wanting. But after 30 or more years of widespread, though rather haphazard, trial the melancholy truth must be admitted that the American farmer has not taken kindly to the soy bean, at least to the extent of its becoming as a matter of fact an important farm crop. Has the farmer failed to recognize a valuable crop, or have the advocates overlooked some drawbacks? Probably mistakes have been made on both sides. From the speaker's point of view, the chief causes for this partial failure may be summarized as follows:

1. Vigorous competitors, such as cowpeas in the South and Canada field peas in the North.
2. The difficulty of saving the crop either for hay or for grain.
3. The need in some sections of soil inoculation.
4. The inferiority of some of the varieties on the market, together with the lack of information regarding the numerous varie-