

SESSION 6c.

DISCUSSION

Reference was made to the problem of annual grasses, such as barley, brome and Hair grass, infesting pasture swards which had passed through the phase of clover dominance, and in which perennial grasses had been established for a considerable period. This infestation was associated with a weakening of the clover stand in spite of regular top-dressing.

Professor Donald said that it was a characteristic of improved pastures for Mediterranean sharp-seeded annuals to form a community with sub-clover. The answer to this problem had been the introduction of a perennial grass but in Canberra in 1953, on phalaris sub-clover pasture an invasion of barley grass and brome grass had occurred which was ascribed to the particular seasonal conditions. There was no precise knowledge of the factors or of the permanence of the effect.