Vols. 9–26 incl., comprises a preliminary list of all Pteridophytes and Spermatophytes, including varieties and named forms, reliably reported to a committee of the New England Botanical Club as growing without cultivation in a precisely defined area which is here roughly described as within thirty miles of Boston. Lincoln is fifteen miles due west of Boston.

The Boston District figures are derived from an unverified count of the taxa involved. Accuracy, as of the present day, is impossible because the list has never been brought up to date either in respect to nomenclature or additions. However, it is unlikely (by the law of chances) that the ratio of native species to total species would be significantly different were an up-to-date list available. Incidentally, it is, of course, a sheer coincidence that this ratio of 62.5%, as stated above, is exactly the same as that for the Lincoln house lot! The significant point is that they are of the same order of magnitude and are in marked contrast to the ratio of 80.1% for Gray's Manual range. Here, it seems, is a bit of concrete evidence of the truth of the commonly accepted assumption that the exotic elements of the floras of long and densely settled areas of this country (e.g., along the eastern seaboard) are much larger than of the relatively youthful regions (e.g., Mississippi basin and prairie states). It takes time for introductions to spread, even when suitable habitats are available. Perhaps in this age of universal motor travel the tempo of the spread is being greatly accelerated.

The figures in Table 5 well illustrate the diversity of our local flora. My house lot of less than three acres contains nearly 8.5% of the species reported from the Boston District (approximately 1900 square miles of which a substantial fraction is salt marsh and sand dune). The Boston District, less than one-quarter of the area of Massachusetts, contains 38% of the species recorded from the entire Gray's Manual range. This diversity is even more striking in respect to genera and families.—LINCOLN, MASSACHUSETTS.

THELEPOGON ELEGANS ROTH IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.—Specimens of this tropical Old World grass recently came to hand for determination, with the information that it is becoming a pest in the rice fields of the Dominican Republic. In its immature stages it resembles rice plants rather closely, thus making more difficult the application of selective control measures.—O. E. JENNINGS, CARNEGIE MUSEUM.