

grasses will soon cover the surface. Lawns that have been cut very close for several years, will suffer much from creeping weeds, which get all the sunlight on their foliage they require to keep them healthy. Unfortunately there is no way to get rid of these but by letting the grass grow for a season, which smothers out the weeds. A good help, however, is to sow in the fall, seeds of some low growing tuft grass, which mowing does not weaken much. The Sheep Fescue is a good one for this purpose. We are inclined to think that even for the main grass in lawn making it has some good points. So far the Kentucky blue grass has had no competitor. The good point in a first-class lawn grass is that it shall grow so stocky as to crowd out all competitors.—*The Gardener's Monthly*.

WEEDS.

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ANY plant out of place is really a weed, even if it does possess considerable beauty. Some plants are so frequently out of place that they have been always known as weeds, such as the thistle, chickweed, bindweed, etc.

In Ontario we have somewhere 150 species of plants commonly known as weeds, and of these nearly 100 have been introduced from Europe. Every year adds a few more foreigners, and if farmers are not more vigilant in watching against these unpleasant invaders our Province will soon be overrun.

There is no doubt that weeds are on the increase in Ontario, both in number and species. This may be accounted for by the comparative indifference of many farmers to the growth of weeds on the roadside, as well as to the practice which now prevails of procuring a change of seed from other districts. The productive power of these pernicious plants will be better understood when the reader examines the results

of observations on their seed-bearing capabilities.

In each case following the seeds are from a single plant : purslane, 500,000 ; burdock, 400,328 ; cockle, 3,200 ; mustard, 31,000 ; Canadian thistle, 42,000 ; ox-eye daisy, 9,600 ; chess, 3,500 ; mallow 16,500. When we consider this productive power and the vitality some possess, together with the peculiar mode by which many are distributed, the surprise is that we are not more overrun than we are, especially when unfortunately located near careless or indifferent farmers.

Weeds are largely distributed by the following means :—

1. Along with grain obtained from other districts.
2. Animals carrying seeds attached to their bodies.
3. By the wind, where seeds are supplied with structures which enable them to be blown about.
4. Threshing machines carrying seeds from farm to farm.
5. Renting farm for a short time to men who are indifferent to the condition in which they leave the place, better or worse, and usually worse than they found it.
6. Manure from city stables.

With such odds against him a farmer who desires to keep his fields clean must be vigilant, industrious and painstaking. However, if he observes the following hints he will succeed in destroying weeds :—

1. Cultivate the land thoroughly.
2. Watch the roadsides and fence-corners.
3. Never allow the weeds to seed.
4. If possible, never allow weeds to have the benefit of sunlight ; this can be effected by constant and thorough cultivation, and will soon result in a clean farm.
5. Secure the co-operation of fellow-farmers.