

ridges or along them. The second discing, however, should be across the course of the disc-marks first made. In dry weather the harrow should follow the disc to keep in moisture. And the longer the seed bed can be thus prepared prior to the sowing of the seed, the moister will the ground be.

Watch the Weeds.

The extent to which cultivated crops are grown in Ontario is a distinctive feature of its cultivation. And it is a most commendable one. It is driving to the wall the old system of the bare fallow. And it is well that such is the case. When wheat sold readily for \$1.25 a bushel it is possible that money could be made in growing it, even though two years were taken to produce a crop, as, in addition to the crop grown, there were other benefits growing out of the bare fallow, such as, for instance, the cleaning of the land. But now, with the prices that rule, it would seem scarcely possible to make any money from a crop of wheat which takes so much labor to produce. The cultivated crop may be made to clean the land just as well. But, in growing it, care should be taken to keep down the weeds. None of them should be allowed to mature their seeds. And to prevent this is no easy task. It requires much watchfulness and some labor at a time when labor cannot well be spared. And yet it is labor that is necessary if such fields are to be made clean. In the latter part of the season the weeds rush to maturity with astonishing rapidity, and they produce, in many instances, an enormous amount of seed. Now, it will not avail to keep the ground clean for a time, and then to have it all smitten again the same season by weed seeds that have matured upon it. Then go through the cultivated fields and get the last of the weeds. Don't let any of them mature. They are only stray weeds at the best. At least, such will be the case if the crop has been well cared for up to the usual time of the year for laying it by; that is to say, up to that time of the year when ordinary cultivation must cease.

Clean Farms.

A clean farm is a rare sight. That it is so is unfortunate, for clean farms and good crops usually go together. And good crops and easy, comfortable circumstances are generally most intimately associated. Clean farms are certainly worked with much less labor than dirty farms. The rotation is less disturbed, and, all things

considered, the clean farm is so immensely superior to the foul one that the great wonder is that clean farms are not more plentiful than they are.

But there may be much difference of opinion as to what is meant by a clean farm. Absolute cleanliness would be impossible. We must not look, then, for farms to be clean in that sense. It would take a fortune to make them so, and it would take a greater fortune to keep them so; but it is quite possible to have farms so free from noxious weeds that practically they will not hurt the grain crops. In this sense anyone may, after a time, have a clean farm. It may take years to make them clean, but it can be done, and it should be done, and it will be done when the farmer is fully alive to the importance of destroying noxious weeds.

That it may be done may be easily demonstrated by instances of men who have done it, and who, at the same time, have been successful farmers. We have in mind two instances. The first is that of Mr. Simpson Rennie, of Markham, Ontario. Mr. Rennie's farm is practically clean. And, as everyone knows, he has made money while working it. The second is that of Mr. Theodore Louis, Wisconsin. Mr. Louis settled, years ago, on a sandy farm, which soon became so impoverished that it refused any longer to grow wheat. He had to choose between moving away and adopting some other system of farming. So he adopted another system of farming. He turned his attention to hog-raising. To enable him to do this successfully, he grew clover and corn. Now he has a fertile farm. Everything about him indicates success and comfort, and all his farm is a model of cleanness. Of course many others, more especially in Ontario, have so cleaned their farms that they are a joy to behold; but many, also, are waging a hopeless contest with weeds from year to year, without making any appreciable headway, owing, principally, to the way in which they wage it.

That farms should be cleaned may be demonstrated in various ways. They should be cleaned for all the reasons assigned in the paragraph which commences this paper. Many other reasons may be assigned, but such a truth should need no demonstration. It is in itself a self-evident truth.

That farms will be more and more cleaned may also be expected. It would be strange if it were not so. Many things have been operating against cleanliness in farms. Grain-growing and grain-selling bear adversely upon cleanliness in farming. And these are the first forms in which tillage is introduced in an agricultural country.