

PRODUCTION

the Central Farm. During 1916 tests were carried on with flax-pulling machines, as well as in the growing of flax in different parts of the country. Hemp growing is also being tried.

Illustration Stations were started in 1914 by the selection of small areas at different points in Saskatchewan and Alberta, the object being to show to farmers in the districts selected the best cultural and crop methods. Early in 1915 the Illustration Station work inaugurated by the Commission of Conservation was taken over by the Experimental Farms Branch. In 1915 a Division of Extension and Publicity was formed for the purpose of making the work of the Experimental Farms more widely known amongst the farmers of Canada. The Division issues every four months a publication entitled "Seasonable Hints," which gives timely notes and advice to help the farmer in his current work.

PROVINCIAL AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTS.

NOVA SCOTIA.

College of Agriculture, Truro.—About 400 acres are devoted to general farming and gardening and to investigations, of which the following are some of the more important. Experiments occupying upwards of 70 acres have been laid out to determine and demonstrate over a period of years the returns from all crops from the application of ground limestone. Results to date are to be found in the Annual Report of the Secretary for Agriculture; they indicate marked returns from clover, and almost as marked returns from turnips, but very slight results from other crops. However, at least two rotations (eight years) must pass by before a comprehensive statement can be issued. Club root has been controlled in turnips and in cabbage, in varying degrees, by the application of burnt and ground limestone. Experiments have been conducted in the growing of oats, peas and vetches (now called O. P. V.) in comparison with corn for silage purposes, and the results under the climatic conditions in Nova Scotia have proved very satisfactorily in favour of O.P.V. Fertilizer experiments are being conducted on an extensive scale. The most important is designed to determine the value of acid phosphate, basic slag and bone meal as sources of phosphoric acid. A permanent pasture experiment to be continued over a course of years is giving striking results from the top dressing of pasture land with commercial fertilizer.

Besides carrying on experiments with varieties of oats, wheat, barley, etc., notable results have been obtained by combining strains of these respective varieties. In the stable and piggery, experiments with different feeds and on the cost of producing milk, etc., are being conducted. In the Horticultural Department experiments have been laid out to study the value of ground limestone not only for garden crops but for trees as well; also the control of club root in cabbage, cauliflower, turnips, etc., by the application of crushed and burnt limestone, is being carefully investigated. The influence of various stocks of the apple on the scion is being studied, and collections of the common cherries and plums, formerly cultivated but now growing almost wild, have been made with a view to studying their value for fruiting and as