

were made to the soldiers. Legislation was passed to encourage the growing of hemp, but little success was obtained in the handling of this crop. According to the census of 1817, the Midland districts of Ontario contained 3,600 horses, 100 oxen, 6,185 cows and 1,654 young cattle.

From a comparatively early period local agricultural societies have been a feature of agriculture in Ontario, some half dozen such societies being organized between 1820 and 1830, in which year the legislature of Upper Canada provided a grant of £100 for a society in each district on condition that the members of the society subscribed and paid in at least £50. In the period from 1830 to 1845 pure-bred cattle were imported, and the foundations of the live stock industry laid. In 1846 were organized the Provincial Agricultural Association and Board of Agriculture for Canada West, and the first provincial exhibition was held in Toronto in that year, followed by annual exhibitions in other cities. These exhibitions promoted the wider use of the labour-saving agricultural machinery which was now being manufactured. In 1859 the Ontario Fruit-Growers' Association was established at Hamilton and in 1862 a veterinary college (now the Ontario Veterinary College) was established in Toronto, while the Ontario Agricultural College was founded at Guelph in 1874.

In 1880 the Ontario Agricultural Commission was appointed to inquire into the agricultural resources of the Province of Ontario, the progress and condition of agriculture, and other related matters. As a result of its report, the Ontario Bureau of Industries was formed in 1882, for the collection and publication of statistics of agriculture and allied industries. Finally, a Department of Agriculture was created in 1888, the activities of which have steadily increased down to the present time.

*Manitoba.*—The earliest attempts at cultivation in Manitoba and the West date from the arrival of the Selkirk settlers at the Red River in 1812. The twenty-two men who composed the settlement immediately commenced to break the land, which was sown with winter wheat. The wheat crops of 1813 and 1814 were complete failures owing both to lack of knowledge and to the only implement available for breaking the sod being the hoe. The yield of potatoes and turnips was, however, good, and the crop of 1815 was a success.

During the first few years of the settlement, there was great rivalry between the North-West Company and the Hudson's Bay Company, which ended in bloodshed in 1816. Many of the settlers were killed and the remainder fled up Lake Winnipeg to Jack River. Early in 1817 a relief force was sent by Lord Selkirk, Fort Douglas was recaptured and the settlers were persuaded to return and resume farming. Misfortune, however, seemed to follow the efforts of this colony, its crops being wiped out by grasshoppers in 1818 and 1819. As the supply of seed was exhausted, some of the settlers went south to Wisconsin and, after much hard labour, returned with 250 bushels of seed. Small crops followed and the people were only saved from suffering and want by the generosity of Lord Selkirk.