

or an average of 110 persons per meeting. These meetings are sponsored by the local supervisor in co-operation with provincial and Dominion Department workers.

Prairie Farm Rehabilitation.—The Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act was passed in 1935 to provide for the improvement of agricultural conditions in those parts of the Prairie Provinces which have suffered severely in recent years from drought and soil drifting. Under the provisions of this Act the Dominion Experimental Farms have inaugurated an extensive program of investigational and demonstrational work with the object of introducing the best measures for minimizing the effects of drought, controlling soil drifting, and reclaiming abandoned, drifted land. An important objective of this program is to develop co-operative action on the part of farmers in effecting their own rehabilitation.

The various agencies operating under the rehabilitation program include:—

(1) *District Experiment Sub-Stations.*—These are private farms operated under contract as outposts of the Dominion Experimental Farms, designed to investigate and demonstrate the best methods of crop production under drought and soil-drifting conditions. A total of 41 of these sub-stations have been established throughout the affected area.

(2) *Reclamation Projects.*—With the object of determining the best methods of reclaiming drifted land for cultivation, or of establishing grass cover to prevent further drifting, reclamation projects have been started at more than thirty points in the drought area. These projects vary from large experimental stations to relatively small demonstrational plots.

(3) *Agricultural Improvement Association.*—In order to secure community co-operative action among farmers on the solution of local drought and soil-drifting problems, about 34 Agricultural Improvement Associations have been formed. These Associations receive advisory services together with material and financial assistance under the rehabilitation programs.

(4) *Tree Planting.*—Free trees are made available to farmers throughout the Prairie Provinces. In addition, special assistance in establishing field shelter belts for soil-drifting control is provided through various rehabilitation agencies.

(5) *Water Development.*—For the provision of facilities for stock-watering and irrigation projects in districts inadequately supplied with water, special engineering and financial assistance has been made available under the rehabilitation program.

In addition to the foregoing major aspects of the rehabilitation program, a considerable amount of work has been undertaken by the Dominion Experimental Farms on grass-seed production, soil research, soil survey and other problems arising from drought and soil drifting. In connection with soils investigations, a new Soil Research Laboratory has been opened at Swift Current, Saskatchewan.

Subsection 2.—Provincial Departments of Agriculture.*

Prince Edward Island.—The Department of Agriculture is presided over by a Minister, and the staff consists of a Deputy Minister, a live-stock superintendent, a superintendent of women's institutes, a dairy superintendent and a field promoter. Assistance is given in co-operative marketing, promoting the live-stock industry and encouraging exhibitions, the formation of boys' and girls' clubs and the welfare of agriculture generally.

* For publications of provincial Departments of Agriculture, see in the index the entry "Publications of Provincial Governments".