

assistance is offered to increase production of certain commodities, to raise the quality of all products and to give leadership in adjustments made necessary by the national emergency.

Through sixteen District Agriculturists and other officials of the Department, the Agricultural Extension Service in co-operation with the other branches has attempted to keep farmers posted with the latest information concerning the demand for agricultural produce. Through field days, short courses, meetings and similar events practical information on every phase of the present problems is discussed. The demand for bulletins has increased and many new publications have been issued. These are distributed free of charge. In the women's extension work, food and nutrition is emphasized and conservation of all goods and commodities is encouraged.

In field crops, emphasis is placed on the production of coarse grains and forage crops to meet the needs of an expanding live-stock industry. Considerable growth in the production of forage crops seed has occurred in recent years.

The services administered by the Live Stock Branch have been widely used. The Bull Exchange and Assistance Policy and the Sheep and Swine Improvement Policies have been instrumental in improving the type of sires used on many Alberta farms. The Live Stock Feeder Association Policy has increased the number and quality of beef cattle and lambs fed in the Province.

The recently appointed Animal Pathologist and the new Veterinary Laboratory have assisted live-stock producers with their disease problems. The Provincial Veterinarian's Branch operates the Co-operative Stallion Purchase Plan to improve horses and renders assistance in controlling diseases.

The Dairy Branch has been instrumental in raising creamery butter production from about 30,000,000 lb. in 1939 to 35,316,100 lb. in 1941. Since the War began the Branch has encouraged the better feeding and management of dairy cattle as the fastest way to increase milk yield.

Because of the demand for eggs for Great Britain, the Poultry Branch launched an educational campaign that is increasing production. The regular blood-testing and other services are being maintained.

Apiculture continues to thrive and more farmers are taking an interest in beekeeping.

The School of Agriculture at Vermilion was closed in 1941 but the Olds School continues to operate. The Demonstration Farms at Olds and Vermilion and the Horticultural Station at Brooks are being maintained. These farms are a source of breeding stock and the station propagates hardy fruit varieties.

The Junior Club program is being expanded as the Department believes it to be one of the most useful parts of the agricultural extension program.

The Department is co-operating in the Dominion-Provincial Youth Training Plan. The courses in farm mechanics for farm boys are particularly valuable under present war conditions.

British Columbia.—The Department of Agriculture consists of three main divisions: (1) The Administrative Division is responsible for the general direction of agricultural policies; administration of legislation affecting agriculture; supervision of extension programs; collection of agricultural statistics; compilation of reports and publications; preparation of material for agricultural exhibitions; supervision of Farmers' and Women's Institutes; direction of Junior Club Projects; markets extension; and the activities of the Agricultural Production Committee,