

are additional examples. Further development of the whole plant-breeding program of the Experimental Farms, essential to improved land utilization, is being vigorously prosecuted.

Expansion is also taking place in the field of plant processing. During the War, the processing laboratories of the Experimental Farms at Kentville, N.S., and Summerland, B.C., were able to make appreciable contributions to the conservation of perishable plant products through improvements in the dehydration of fruits and vegetables, quick-freezing practices, and the better storage and packaging of fresh fruits and juices. More recently a fruit and vegetable processing laboratory and sorghum syrup plant has been established at Morden, Man., for work in the Prairie Provinces; while a similar laboratory is projected at Lethbridge, Alta., to serve the processing needs of growers in the irrigated districts of Alberta. At Portage la Prairie, Man., a new fibre-flax pilot mill, for research in processing prairie flax products, is in operation. More attractive and nutritious products, better seasonal marketing, and the use of by-products and material formerly wasted, are objectives of this processing program.

Nutritional research, together with further improvements in breeding, are developing major post-war phases of Experimental Farms work in animal production. In particular, studies on the relationship between nutrition and animal health are being carried on with increasing intensity. In the breeding program, the development of high-class Yorkshire bacon-type hogs for the important United Kingdom market and of improved sheep breeds for western ranches, are isolated examples of the work in progress. Both in the nutrition and breeding of live stock and poultry, the Branch Farms play an important role, some serving mainly as nutritional centres, others as breeding centres, but practically all conducting experimental work of importance in their several districts.

Entering all phases of agriculture, the engineering services of the Experimental Farms, with laboratories and workshops at Ottawa and Swift Current, Sask., reflect in their expanding operations the trend to greater and more efficient mechanization of the post-war period. In general, these engineering activities are directed to the design of new labour-saving devices, the improvement of existing equipment, and the better co-ordination of mechanical outfits and farm production. One interesting development has been in the experimental repair and new construction of dykes and aboiteaux in the Bay of Fundy area, conducted by the Experimental Farm at Nappan, N.S.

Geographically, the Experimental Farms Service has, throughout the years, expanded with the growth of settlement. The most recent move has been to the Northwest Territories and Yukon, with the establishment of Substations at Fort Simpson, N.W.T., and Whitehorse, Yukon. While these measures are relatively small in themselves, and definitely not in the interests of increased settlement, they are mentioned here in view of the growing interest in and importance of the Canadian northland.

### Subsection 3.—Provincial Departments of Agriculture

Each of the nine provinces, under Sect. 95 of the British North America Act, has a Department of Agriculture, which directs its general agricultural policies, administers the provincial legislation affecting agriculture, and provides extensive services to assist the rural people in its respective area. The work of these Departments is outlined at pp. 213-218 of the 1946 Year Book.