

Considerable progress was made in the establishment of standard structures and standard methods of modern construction. New designs, based on up-to-date engineering knowledge and techniques, were under development with particular reference to soil mechanics.

### Subsection 2.—Provincial Projects

**Saskatchewan.\***—Crown lands have been administered by the Lands Branch of the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture since Apr. 1, 1947. A further development was the establishment of a Conservation and Development Branch on Apr. 1, 1949, which is responsible for the following: (1) development of irrigation; (2) reclamation of land by flood control and drainage; (3) the restoration of misused land and the development of under-utilized land; (4) the improvement of unoccupied land for agricultural settlement; (5) the construction of community pastures not provided for in the agreement with the Federal Government or outside the area served by the P.F.R.A. program.

The work of the Department in the field of agricultural rehabilitation and reclamation is based on the co-ordination of the federal P.F.R.A. program and the Provincial Department of Agriculture conservation and development activity. A closely knit working arrangement is fostered with respect to the development of federal and provincial projects.

The following is a summary of the activities of the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture in accordance with the division of responsibility set out above.

There were 16 dry-land feed and fodder projects under development on Dec. 31, 1951. These projects were located on lands that have been under-utilized or that have been settled but abandoned because they were not suitable for arable agriculture. The area within the boundaries of the projects totalled 43,990 acres with 16,590 acres seeded to forage and 5,965 acres in preparation for seeding.

Five irrigated fodder projects located in or close to winter feed-deficient areas are under development; these include 5,800 acres of which 5,475 acres had, to Dec. 31, 1951, been prepared for irrigation, seeded or were in the process of being seeded to forage crops.

The Department has also assisted seven co-operative associations and rural municipalities in developing fodder-reserve projects. These projects include 4,160 acres of which 1,000 acres have been seeded to forage crops and 1,050 acres are in preparation for seeding.

Since Apr. 1, 1949, the installation of secondary distribution systems on irrigation projects for which storage and main canals had been constructed by P.F.R.A. brought an additional 17,668 acres in Saskatchewan under "the ditch". During the same period, 26 water-users districts were established with 684 farmer members.

The activity in the developing and promoting of community pastures outside the scope of the P.F.R.A. program resulted in the construction and improvement of 29 pastures comprising 354,000 acres. These pastures are operated as community pastures by the Lands Branch of the Department or by the municipality in which they are located, or by co-operative community pasture associations.

During 1951 provincial community pastures provided grazing for 7,133 head of live stock owned by 407 vicinity farmers.

\* Prepared under the direction of W. H. Horner, Deputy Minister, Department of Agriculture, Regina, Sask.