

Representatives, a Chief Forester and Assistant, a Director of Farm Improvement, a Nursery Supervisor, and a Director, an Assistant Director and two Extension Workers of Women's Institutes.

Nova Scotia.—The Department of Agriculture and Marketing endeavours to "help the people to help themselves" through strengthening member interest in such organizations as the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture, Nova Scotia Fruit Growers' Association, various agricultural co-operative organizations, credit unions and producer organizations. The Department is assisted by the Nova Scotia Advisory Committee on Agricultural Services which has been established to promote agricultural policies and projects of the Federal and the Provincial Departments of Agriculture. The Committee meets quarterly to determine how the work of these Departments may be co-ordinated and directed through integrated agricultural policies and with a minimum duplication of services.

New Brunswick.—Provincial Government agricultural policy in New Brunswick is directed by the Department of Agriculture. The Department is headed by the Minister of Agriculture who is assisted by a Deputy Minister and the Directors of the following services: extension, livestock, dairy, veterinary, poultry, horticulture, field husbandry, soils and crops, plant protection and promotion, agricultural engineering, home economics, Credit Union Co-operative Association, agricultural education, apiculture, and agricultural societies.

Quebec.—The Department of Agriculture of Quebec comprises eleven services: rural education, rural economy, extension, animal husbandry, horticulture, field husbandry, information and research, home economics, animal health, rural engineering and the secretariat. Each service is divided into sections dealing with particular problems.

The Department also includes many other special organizations such as the Research Council, the Dairy Industry Commission, the Dairy School of St. Hyacinthe, the Provincial Extension Farm (Deschambault), the Fur Bearing Animals Extension Farm (St. Louis de Courville). The Farm Credit Bureau, the Quebec Sugar Refinery (St. Hilaire) and the Veterinary College (St. Hyacinthe) are also under the authority of the Minister of Agriculture and the Office of Rural Electrification is connected with the Provincial Executive Council.

The annual competition for the Agricultural Merit Order, organized in 1890, is held successively in each of five regions. Each contest lasts five years and covers the various farm products; its main objective is to ascertain the personal merit of the competitors who have most distinguished themselves and can serve as examples. County Farm Improvement Contests have been conducted for more than twenty-two years and are still very popular. Over 6,000 competitors have already benefited from these contests which promote better methods of culture designed to increase farm income.

The Drainage Service deals with soil improvement or land reclamation by dredging the large watercourses with its own equipment or under contract and by renting equipment at very low rates to farmers who want to improve their croplands. The Department of Agriculture also gives assistance in the form of grants towards such projects. Soil improvement measures include large drainage projects carried out by the Department and smaller projects carried out by groups of farmers with government help. In 1955, 32,410 farmers benefited from help given by this Service.

Various forms of assistance are offered towards improvement of crops and livestock. An artificial insemination station operates at St. Hyacinthe for the benefit of breeders' clubs, and plant breeding stations for cereal and forage crops, vegetables and small fruits are maintained in a number of localities. Trained specialists are employed in the work of controlling plant and animal pests and diseases; the main laboratories are situated at Quebec City and field laboratories are located in different districts or in schools.

Agricultural co-operation is widespread in Quebec. There are 542 co-operatives with about 68,000 members and 89 agricultural societies with 28,865 members to serve local interests and organize county exhibitions. There are also 726 Cercles de Fermières