

which a student may proceed to the degrees of Master of Science in Agriculture and Master of Science; in a limited number of fields, work is offered at the Doctorate level. The Faculty also offers a one-year or two-year diploma course in occupational agriculture, adaptable to the needs of individual students.

In co-operation with various branches of the provincial Department of Agriculture and under the auspices of the University Extension Department, the Faculty of Agriculture also offers a number of short courses which vary in length from one or two days to several weeks.

Section 3.—Agricultural Irrigation and Land Conservation

Subsection 1.—Federal Projects*

Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act

The Federal Government passed the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act in 1935 authorizing an expenditure of \$4,750,000 over a five-year period to provide for the rehabilitation of the drought and soil drifting areas in the Prairie Provinces. An amendment in 1937 extended the scope of the program by providing for the withdrawal of poor quality lands from cultivation and the resettlement of the farmers operating such lands. A further amendment in 1939 removed the limitation as to time and amount of expenditure. The policies and projects carried out under the Act vary widely in nature and scope but each has as its objective the better utilization of land to minimize the problems of drought, or the conservation of water for farm purposes.

Special votes have been passed by Parliament from time to time for the development of large irrigation projects in the Prairie Provinces and land reclamation and development works, including flood control, which because of their size are not included in the PFRA appropriation. These works, however, are carried out by the PFRA organization, which has its head office in Regina, Sask. Most of the large undertakings under the special votes are carried out and financed jointly with the provinces under agreements setting out the responsibilities of each party in the development work.

Water Conservation Projects.—PFRA provides engineering and financial assistance to farmers in the construction of water conservation works as a rehabilitation measure within drought areas of the three Prairie Provinces. The amount of financial assistance awarded is largely dependent upon the type and size of the project contemplated. At all times PFRA policy is to provide assistance to farmers to rehabilitate themselves. Authority to proceed with construction is secured through the respective provincial water rights departments.

During 21 years of operation PFRA has provided assistance to farmers to construct 52,461 individual farm dugouts and small dams, many of which are suitable for irrigation. These projects have extended widely the benefits of water throughout the dry areas. Adequate water storage facilities have been provided where water shortages exist and dependable water supplies assured, through irrigation for domestic requirements, for stock watering and for the production of livestock feed. Thus a great many farmers have been rehabilitated on their present holdings.

The development of community projects is necessarily confined within the narrow reaches of well-defined watersheds where sufficient water resources are available. Where a group of farmers organizes a water users' association or a rural municipality provides leadership in an irrigation or water storage project, PFRA co-operates with the local body. The usual procedure is for the Government of Canada to assume the capital cost of storage and connecting works and the provincial body to assume the responsibility for the distribution of water to the land or along the watershed. The local body also undertakes maintenance and operation.

* Prepared under the direction of Dr. J. G. Taggart, C.B.E., Deputy Minister of Agriculture, by G. J. Matte, Associate Director of Rehabilitation.