

Committees study local farm problems and initiate improvement programs. Through an Earned Assistance Program the Department pays one-half the cost of local group development projects.

The Animal Industry Branch has four divisions. The Dairy Division administers dairy herd improvement programs and assists producers with management and production problems; inspects and licenses dairy manufacturing and frozen-food locker plants; and administers dairy, locker plant and margarine legislation. The Livestock Division encourages the use of suitable animals for breeding purposes by the establishment of purebred sire areas and by assistance in the purchase and distribution of stallions, bulls, boars and rams. It registers brands, licenses livestock dealers and agents and promotes programs on insect control, feeding and management. The Poultry Division maintains flock testing and turkey grading services; administers an approved hatchery policy; licenses produce dealers and poultry buyers, hatcheries and hatchery agents. It also assists with poultry shows and field days and otherwise promotes flock improvement. The Veterinary Division assists students in veterinary science under a scholarship plan, administers disease testing and vaccination programs and co-operates with Federal Government officials and local veterinarians in disease prevention and control.

The Conservation and Development Branch provides engineering services for irrigation development, usually in co-operation with the Federal Government, and for drainage programs and projects. Reclamation of land by drainage, development of misused land and under-utilized land, and construction of provincial community pastures all come within its jurisdiction. The Branch provides engineering assistance to conservation and development areas, water users' districts, and irrigation districts in connection with water control projects.

The Lands Branch administers all Crown, school and Land Utilization Board lands except forest reserves and parks in the settled area of the province; classifies it according to the use for which it is best suited; disposes of such lands under long-term leases; secures land control for land utilization projects; supervises new settlement projects and operates provincial community pastures.

The Plant Industry Branch organizes and administers programs for crop improvement and crop protection, and advises on seed and crop improvement, soil conservation, horticultural problems, weed control and management of irrigated land. The improvement of grassland is promoted through a forage crop program. The Seed Plant Division carries on custom cleaning of forage seeds and registered cereals. The Apiary Division advises on beekeeping and honey production, supervises and carries on continuous inspection.

The Agricultural Machinery Administration, established in 1958, carries out a testing service on farm machinery as well as an inspection service, and licences dealers in farm machinery.

Alberta.—The Alberta Department of Agriculture is organized in the following branches and services.

The Field Crops Branch administers programs and policies relating to crop improvement, soil conservation and weed control, crop protection and pest control, horticulture and apiculture. Agricultural Service Boards have been organized in municipal districts to assist with agricultural programs, and the Department of Agriculture is represented on each Board.

The Live Stock Branch aids in maintaining the quality of herds and flocks by assisting farmers in securing purebred herd sires and assists artificial breeding associations in the breeding of dairy cattle. The Branch also supervises livestock feeder associations and administers legislation relating to stock inspection, brands, domestic animals and the sale of horned cattle.

The Dairy Branch administers the Dairymen's Act and the Frozen Food Locker Act. Grading and purchasing of raw produce by all dairy plants are under regulation, as are standards of construction, manufacture, processing, sanitation, and temperature control for dairies and frozen food lockers. A regular cow-testing service is available to dairy