

The Alberta Schools of Agriculture and Home Economics, located at Olds, Vermilion and Fairview, offer practical courses in agriculture and homemaking. The purpose of the schools is to train young men for farming and young women for homemaking. Students must have grade 9 standing for entrance into the regular two-term course. A one-year course is offered to those who have 70 or more high school credits. Living accommodation is provided as well as auditorium and gymnasium facilities.

During the summer months the schools are used for agricultural meetings and conferences of organizations that are connected with agriculture. During the month of July, leadership courses, 4-H Club gatherings, farm camps and other events keep the facilities in constant operation.

British Columbia.—The Faculty of Agriculture at the University of British Columbia offers a four-year general degree course in agriculture and a five-year honours course. In the honours course there are 15 fields in which a student may specialize. Work is also offered by the Faculty of Agriculture in the Faculty of Graduate Studies through 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 PFRA program was instituted by Act of Parliament passed in 1935 to provide for rehabilitation of the drought and soil-drifting areas in the Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. It was later continued in force and its scope enlarged. The Act is designed to promote better cultural practices, to develop surface water resources for stock-watering, domestic use and irrigation of crops, particularly of forage and seed.

The administration of the Act is carried out from headquarters at Regina and its programs include water development, community pasture development, rehabilitation and re-settlement of farmers from submarginal lands on irrigated lands, and large-scale irrigation and reclamation projects. Large irrigation and reclamation projects in Western Canada are authorized by special vote of the Federal Government and are carried out and financed jointly with the provinces concerned under agreements which set out the responsibilities of each party in the development work. Federal responsibility is administered by the PFRA.

Water Conservation Projects.—As a rehabilitation measure within the drought area of the three Prairie Provinces, PFRA provides engineering and financial assistance to farmers for the construction of water conservation works. The amount of financial assistance awarded is largely dependent upon the type and size of project constructed. Authority to proceed with construction is secured through the respective provincial water rights departments.

During 23 years of operation, PFRA has provided assistance to farmers for the construction of 56,094 individual farm dugouts and small dams, many of which are suitable for irrigation. In this way, adequate water storage facilities are being developed where water shortages exist, thereby extending widely the benefits of water throughout the dry

* Prepared under the direction of Dr. J. G. Taggart, C.B.E., Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Ottawa.