

AGRICULTURE.

drying and grinding of seaweed was undertaken at a point on the coast of Nova Scotia. The fertilizing value of the material so prepared is being tested in the field.

The Poultry Division undertakes experiments in the breeding, mating, incubating, brooding, rearing, housing and feeding of farm poultry, in the production of eggs, the preparation of poultry produce for the market and the study of poultry diseases. Demonstrations in poultry keeping are made at Ottawa and at the Branch Farms and Stations, these latter being chiefly for the purpose of proving locally that farm poultry rather than the poultry farm is profitable, and for the distribution of improved breeding stock to farmers.

Recent Developments.—Experiments in the growth of tobacco are carried on by an expert from France at Ottawa, assisted by local superintendents at the tobacco stations of St. Jacques l'Achigan, and Farnham, Quebec and Harrow, Ontario. These experiments include the testing of different varieties to suit the Canadian soil and climate, the best means of curing and the preparation of different kinds of tobacco for the market. In 1912 a Division of Forage Plants was established under the direction of a scientific officer from the Plant Breeding Station at Svalöf in Sweden. The Division has for its object improvement in the quality and yield of grasses, clovers, alfalfas and other forage crops grown in Canada. An Economic Fibre Division has been established at Ottawa, for the purpose of stimulating the growth of flax for fibre throughout Canada. In 1915 small experimental plots were grown in different localities, and excellent samples of fibre were produced from the straw. A flax mill has been erected at Ottawa, and flax-pulling machines have been tested. Hemp-growing is also being tried.

Illustration Stations were started in 1914 by the selection of small areas at different points in Saskatchewan and Alberta, the object being to show to farmers in the districts selected the best cultural and crop methods. In 1915 a Division of Extension and Publicity was formed for the purpose of making the work of the Experimental Farms more widely known amongst the farmers of Canada. The Division issues every four months a publication entitled "Seasonable Hints," which gives timely notes and advice to help the farmer in his current work.

PROVINCIAL AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT.

NOVA SCOTIA.

College of Agriculture, Truro.—About 400 acres are devoted to general farming and gardening and to investigations, of which the following are some of the more important. The value of ground limestone as a means of improving soil fertility and of controlling Club Root in turnips is being determined. The experiment is in its third year. The results to date, as to which details will be found in the Report for 1915 of the Secretary of Agriculture, are extremely marked in the case of clover, but are not so marked with other crops. During three years, experiments have been made to ascertain the value for silage purposes of a mixture of peas, oats and vetches, as compared