

in co-operation with the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, collects data on crop conditions, production, marketings and income; and the Radio and Information Division broadcasts farm information daily over seven private stations.

The Agricultural Representative Service has a field staff of 37 agricultural representatives, four area supervisors and specialists in farm mechanics and visual aids. The Farm Labour Division co-ordinates farm labour requirements and services with federal agencies. The Service provides an extension field staff for all Branches of the Department as well as for the other agencies operating within the Co-operative Agricultural Extension Program. Agricultural representatives are active in all federal, provincial and university farm services. In farm labour matters co-operation is maintained with the federal Department of Labour and the National Employment Service in directing annual movements of farm labour in and out of the Province. Agricultural representatives work through Agricultural Conservation and Improvement Committees in each rural municipality and local improvement district to supply the farmer with the scientific and practical information necessary for improvement in agriculture. Agricultural committees are instrumental in studying local farm problems and in initiating agricultural improvement programs. These programs are encouraged through an Earned Assistance Program under which the Department pays one-half the cost of local group development projects.

The Animal Industry Branch includes 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 pure-bred 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, established in the Department of Agriculture on Apr. 1, 1949, is responsible for the engineering services extended by the Department 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 administers the Farm Implement Act and provides engineering assistance to conservation and development areas, water users' districts, and irrigation districts in connection with water control projects.

The Lands Branch, brought under the Department of Agriculture, Apr. 1, 1947, 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; collects rental for land under disposition; secures land control for land utilization projects, including the purchase and exchange of lands and Crown lands; supervises new settlement projects including land improvement by the Department and by lessees 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, and carries on continuous inspection for American foul brood and supervises grading.