

its advance in other respects, and this is directly due to the fact that the Provincial Government recognized its importance as one of the chief factors in the development of the country, and, at as early a date as the rehabilitation of the Provincial finances rendered it possible proceeded to completely reorganize the Agricultural Department. This has now been divided into two branches under the Deputy Minister, the horticultural branch being under a horticulturist and two assistants, with special qualifications for studying the entomological and other conditions which may affect the fruit industry and for rendering assistance to the Inspector of fruit pests; while the other branch is under the livestock commissioner, who is assisted by three inspectors of animals (all qualified veterinary surgeons) whose duty it is to visit all parts of the Province for the purpose of seeing the regulations carried out. The policy of testing cattle for tuberculosis free of charge, which has been adopted by the Government, also falls within the scope of duty of these officials.

The Government has also appointed a poultry expert, who will take exclusive charge of this branch, the object being to develop poultry raising and egg production on the co-operative plan, upon similar lines to those upon which creameries and cheese factories are operated.

The fruit industry in British Columbia has, under the fostering care of the present Government, attained dimensions within the past five years, which have already attracted the attention of the whole civilized world. In addition to doing all in its power to facilitate the raising of the highest quality of fruit throughout the Province, Mr. McBride's government has been successful in aiding the growth of a rapidly increasing export trade by securing reduced freight rates and proper care for the shipment of fruit. Not only have the government done all this, but, having done their utmost towards assisting the building of the export trade, they went abroad to create the markets. The method they adopted was both unique and effectual. Instead of following the old system of a display of fruit and the distribution of literature, the new plan was to follow up the fairs in the Northwest and in Great Britain by the shipment of fresh fruit in commercial lots. These fruits being exhibited, are then sold to dealers, or given away each day or so, being replaced by fresh shipments. Some idea of the success which has been attained by the Government's policy in this direction may be gained from the fact that in four successive years British Columbia took the highest award in Great Britain, winning practically all the gold and silver medals at the Royal Horticultural Society in London, and at the leading fairs throughout Great Britain. In