

APPENDIX A

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with similar enthusiasm, and special bulletins on many important subjects have been published and widely distributed.

The backward condition of agriculture in Canada, which was so pronounced twenty years ago, has given place to one of constant progress and advancement, and, instead of a lack of skill and knowledge among the farmers of this country, I think it may now be safely said that Canadian farmers, on an average, are as well informed and more generally progressive than those of any other country in the world.

The Experimental Farms have been one of the important factors in the educative work of this country and the Government is now wisely adding to the opportunity of Canadian farmers to gain knowledge by increasing the number of these institutions. Two experimental stations have recently been established in Alberta, one in the southern part of the province at Lethbridge, to study the various problems connected with irrigation and dry farming, and one further north at Lacombe to carry on experiments in general farming suitable for that district. Experiments are also in progress under Government direction in the Peace River country and the Yukon. It is expected that other sub-stations will shortly be established on Prince Edward Island, Vancouver Island and in northern Saskatchewan. These will no doubt be followed by others so that eventually these experimental institutions will be sufficiently numerous to meet the needs of our various climates.

The reputation of Canada as an advanced agricultural country stands high, and other nations are earnestly interesting themselves in the fine agricultural products for which Canada is now noted. When the National Miller's Association of Great Britain began their efforts to improve the quality of the wheat grown in the Mother Country, application was made for the best wheats obtainable here and although varieties were obtained by them from many other countries, none have yet been found superior to the best of those sent from Canada. Many other lands have also sought for samples of the agricultural products of this country for trial. Among the British Colonies many different sorts have been sent to Australia, South Africa and Newfoundland. India has applied for some of the best products for test in that country especially in the higher altitudes in the mountain districts. Requests have recently come from Thibet for food materials likely to be grown with success in the high plains of that country at altitudes ranging from 12,000 to 16,000 feet. In response to requests from the Russian Department of Agriculture many varieties of wheat, barley and maize have been supplied which are being tested in different parts of that Empire. Even from Egypt the great granary of early times requests for Canadian grain have been received and the varieties sent are now being tested at Khar-