

tioned in having many resources in this province. You have your minerals, you have your fisheries, and a variety of other resources outside of agriculture. But while this is true, it is equally true that agriculture counts for more than any other material interest you have in Nova Scotia in every sense. There are over fifty-six thousand occupiers of land in this province. These 56,033 people occupy over five millions (5,080,901) of acres of land in Nova Scotia, of which about one million and a quarter (1,257,468) acres are improved land. These 56,033 occupiers represent an interest of tremendous importance in the amount of capital invested. There is nothing else that comes near it in the province. When the man who takes the census comes around, and he is perhaps the same man who rates the assessment values, he does not get any magnified figures as to the value of the land. The census valuation of the farming land in this province, which you will readily admit is not likely to give results which are beyond the actual facts, the value of the land with buildings, machinery, implements and live stock on the farms of Nova Scotia is over seventy-two and a half millions of dollars (\$72,564,907). The interests of agriculture in Nova Scotia are not a minor or little thing. While the assessed value of the lands, buildings, implements, machinery and live stock, as I have stated, is seventy-two and a half millions of dollars, the annual value of the products of the farms, arrived at in the same way, and therefore not fixed at the retail price, but rather at the valuations upon which the farmer may expect to be taxed, was sixteen million three hundred thousand dollars (\$16,305,555) in 1900. I need not say then that a most important question is how education can best be used to help the men and women who are engaged, and the boys and girls who are growing up to be engaged, in this great industry representing fifty-six thousand heads of families, an investment of capital to the amount of seventy-two and a half millions of dollars, and an annual revenue of sixteen millions three hundred thousand dollars in this province.

#### HOW AGRICULTURE IS BEING DEVELOPED.

I will not speak in detail on this point or I would be led into giving you a Farmers' Institute speech. But I would like to mention instances of a few ways in which agriculture is being developed elsewhere or is being developed here. It is wise to take note of all the methods and means that have been successful. I think it is foolish for a man to say that he will start from the beginning without first doing that; such a man would proclaim himself a fool in any practical undertaking. The most that people of any generation can do is to improve a little on what their forefathers left them. You have made progress along several lines. Cannot these lines be broadened and lengthened; can new ones be joined to them, while still getting full service from what has been found useful in