

sition that he understands his profession better than if he only knows the "how?" Mr. James adds:—

"From his experiences of several years teaching at the Ontario Agricultural College the author believes that the rational teaching of agriculture in the Public and High Schools is not only possible, but would be exceedingly profitable. An intelligent understanding of the science underlying the art of agriculture will add much interest to what is otherwise hard work, and, as a natural consequence, the pleasure of such work may be greatly increased. The agriculturists of this country in the future will work at a serious disadvantage if they do not have some knowledge of the very interesting science that underlies their work. The residents of our towns and cities also will find that some knowledge of the science of agriculture may be of use to them, and may increase the respect and consideration for the calling that contributes so largely to the general wealth and welfare of this country."

A very valuable paper by the same Mr. James, published in Ontario, and reproduced in the *Patriot* newspaper here in January last, on the "Teaching of Agriculture in our Public Schools," will well bear careful reading in this connection. I make no apology for making lengthy extracts from that excellent paper. He says:—

"The motive power of this continent of people takes its rise in you, (i. e., in the farmers) and in your success all are interested."

Is this not particularly true of P. E. Island? Does not the welfare of every man here depend upon the farmer's welfare? Mr. James' paper was read in the United States, but his remarks are fully as applicable here as there. He goes on:—

"We in Canada, and you also in the United States, have read the never-ending story of the gold discovery of the Yukon. During the present year perhaps twenty-five millions of dollars of gold have been produced. A few, very comparatively, have made fortunes. Scores of lives have been lost, hundreds have shattered their health, thousands have spent their savings,—more money, in all probability, has been spent in seeking the gold than has been produced. Still the rage continues, and the papers fill their columns with the news. During the same period of time, the farmers of the Province of Ontario produced wealth amounting to nearly \$250,000,000. If we could increase the farm products of Ontario by only 10 per cent. we would add as much wealth to the country as the Yukon has produced. And when we consider the great extent of what may be called average farming or poor farming, and the comparatively small amount of profitable, high-class, or, if you will, "scientific" farming that is carried on, the possibility of improving the production by 10 per cent. appears away below the mark. You have seen the poor fields asleep and inert because of their undrained condition; you have seen the luxuriant weed growth stealing the fatness of the land from the farmer's family; you have seen the poor seed, underbred, weak and