CO-OPERATIVE SEED PRODUCTION

In 1914 there was organized in the province of Quebec, with headquarters at Ste-Rosalie Junction, a society known as the Quebec Co-operative Society of Seed Producers. The object of this organization was to produce and handle in adequate quantities high class seed for use on Quebec farms. The society is composed of farmers who must be stockholders. Each member must own at least ten shares of \$10 each. Those who prefer to do so may pay their stock in full. Others must pay at least \$10 per year until the full value of the stock is paid up. The society has paid so far six per cent. interest on all money paid in by stockholders. The operations of the society are controlled by a board of five directors elected amongst the members. Louis Lavallee, a practical farmer, who has devoted a good deal of attention to seed work, is the enthusiastic manager. The salary of the manager and his assistants is paid by the department of agriculture for the province. The services of these assistants are available for other provincial work during the slack season of the year. On the other hand a good deal of assistance is rendered the society by provincial district representatives or "demonstrators" during the summer in inspecting crops of seed grown by farmers for the society. The society is the owner of a warehouse and cleaning plant at Ste-Rosalie Junction. Money for the building and machinery was horrowed from the provincial government without interest. This money is to be paid back as the husiness of the society develops. The building cost \$15,000 and the machinery \$5,000. There are now 437 members who have purchased a total amount paid up to date is \$11,884.

The aim of this society is ultimately to handle registered and first class seed and to be the chief distributing station of same in the province. Last spring, for instance, they purchased practically all registered seed from other provinces and to follow its methods of registration. The above association and the society are working in conder that the seed produced may, if

Responding to the demands of the Labor party the Imperial parliament has passed an act which outlaws any claim for rents above the amount charged on August 3, 1914.



