TABLE IIIA
REVENUE PER ANIMAL UNIT
■ best 10 farms
☐ poorest 10 farms
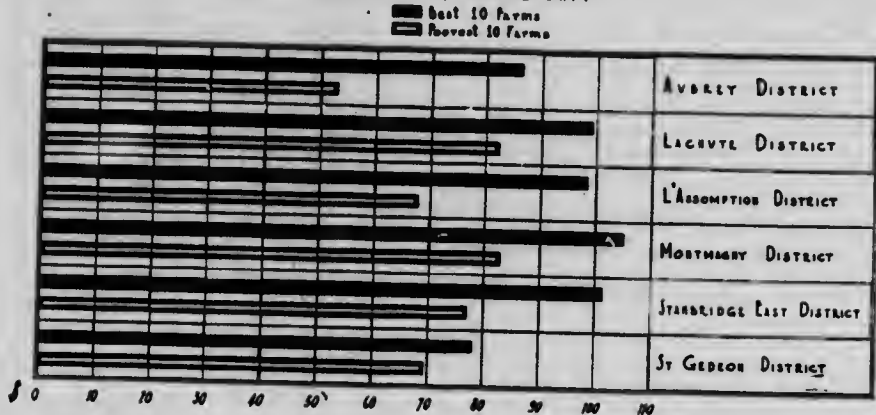

The findings of tables III and IIIA ought to be of great interest, not only to students of farm conditions, but also to every farmer, regardless of whether he has made a success of his calling or not. These tables are interesting because they show the existing possibilities of success in farming and demonstrate what line of action must be followed if success is to be attained.

Here again it will be remembered that these groups of the ten best and ten poorest farms are made up by having each parish in the vicinity of the centre mentioned, supply its proportional quota of best and poorest farms to form the respective groups of ten farm averages.

It will be noticed that the highest average labour income for the ten best farms is obtained in L'Assomption district, and that the lowest average labour income for the ten poorest farms is obtained in St. Gedeon district. The reasons accounting for these very striking differences are the same as those given in last year's survey. The high plus labour income obtained in the L'Assomption district is due to the high average gross income received from the cash crops sold, over fifty per cent of this revenue being from tobacco growing and truck farming. The low minus labour income of the St. Gedeon district is due in part to the high value placed upon the real estate, said value being twenty per cent above the average of the other groups. This, and the relatively low returns per animal unit, are the principle reasons for the poor returns.

If we study some of the factors influencing success and failure in the operation of the ten best and ten poorest farms in the Aubrey district, what do we see? We have, to start with, a plus labour income of $926 for the average of the ten best farms against a minus labour income of $547 for the average of the ten poorest farms. How is this difference of labour income to be accounted for? We will notice that the average size of the farms for these two groups varies, being 153 crop acres for the ten best farms, against 107 crop acres for the ten poorest farms, a difference in size which may or could be a contributing factor. The proportion of capital invested, its distribution, the crop acres per man and per horse, are all very nearly alike for both classes of farm, while the proportion of animal units kept is higher in the case of the ten poorest farms. Furthermore, the average operating expenditure is higher in the poor farms than in the better farms, a factor which should be in favour of the former. Yet it will be observed that the average return on capital invested in the case of the ten poorest farms is 8.6 per cent lower than in the case of the ten best farms. One explanation lies in the fact that a much smaller revenue was obtained from cash crops by the ten poorest farms