

Government for a decrease in rural population are not ready to credit the Government for the part which its assistance has played in the progress and production of the Province.

With a decreased rural population and at the same time an increased acreage under crop and a record agricultural production, a person may well ask how this is possible. The answer is easily found in the one word *machinery*. This is the age of machinery and it is now recognized that with the aid of modern agricultural implements much manual labor is saved and the same amount of farm help is not now required.

THE GOVERNMENT AND FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS.

It is charged that the Government is antagonistic to farmers' organizations. Investigation proves this assertion false. The following are the facts:—

- (1) The Government has placed on the statute books legislation to facilitate the organization of co-operative companies, to protect the use of the word "co-operative," to make possible the securing of a charter at a nominal cost.
- (2) The Government has for years carried on a propaganda showing the value of co-operation among the farmers and has assisted in organizing upwards of 400 Farmers' Clubs in the Province, giving full information as to organization and business, but leaving the conduct of the business affairs to the farmers themselves who were vitally concerned.
- (3) The Government has for the past five or six years maintained a special branch of the Department of Agriculture for the purpose of facilitating co-operative organization and has devoted special attention to the organization of live stock shipping associations, which a year ago shipped co-operatively upwards of two million dollars' worth of live stock.
- (4) Assistance has been rendered to the Ontario Sheep Breeders' Association by which their wool has been marketed co-operatively, aggregating as much as 750,000 pounds in one year.