

liament, Liberal-Farmer Member for Prince Edward County, said:—

"I am glad to note that a member of the Legislature of the province of Manitoba has been in Toronto pointing out the benefits of rural credits in the province of Manitoba, and I hope that we will take a lesson from this man from the West and establish a real rural credit law in the province of Ontario, which I believe will be of immense benefit to the farmers of this province. I see no reason why for instance, we could not have farm loan banks or something of this nature in which the farmers could deposit their money to help one another."

Agricultural Schools.

Dealing with Agricultural schools, Mr. Parliament said:—

"We should have at least one Agricultural School in every county; and there should be more than ten or fifteen acres of land about it. We should have a real Demonstration Farm where every branch will be taken up. Instead of having one well qualified district representative there would then be 200 or 300 young persons well qualified in farm matters."

"I believe that the proper kind of schools in our rural communities with a Demonstration Farm and an Agricultural School situated thereon, with a winter term, would so broaden and fit them (the children) for their life's work that the outlay would not be considered. It would to my mind raise the standard of rural education so that it would not breed contempt for work but that it would ennoble a man's work and heighten his ability to perform it well, which is the proper ideal to strive for in moulding the mind of the young."

Decline in Rural Population.

The total rural population of Ontario in the year 1901, according to the official census, was 1,246,969. In the year 1911 the rural population was 1,194,785—a decrease of 52,184, persons. In the same time the total urban population had increased from 925,978 in the year 1901 to 1,328,489 in the year 1911, being an increase of 392,511 persons.

The census further shows that from 1901 to 1911 the rural population of Old Ontario declined by 97,124 and when the old and new parts are taken together the total decline is as above:—

The population of rural Ontario to-day is, moreover, 110,000 less than it was 40 years ago. The figures are as follows:—

Rural Population, Ontario 1871	1,306,405
Rural Population, Ontario 1911	1,194,785

Loss in 40 years	111,620
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