



THE HONOURABLE MR. HANNA INSPECTING THE CATTLE AT THE "JAIL" FARM

Board is also a tribunal for the protection of the telephone user, particularly the rural subscriber. Under the Charters Telephone Act the Board can compel any telephone company operating under provincial authority to exchange with any other company similarly authorised that declines to be accommodating. Under an arrangement with the Federal authorities connection is secured for the rural telephone subscriber over the lines of the Bell Company, which operates under a Dominion authority.

Of territory the Province has plenty. Population is what counts. How to develop this territory to employ and to support a population is one of the high functions of government that Ontario's administration is endeavoring to perform with an earnestness which critics do not question. The Ontario boy has been made to think twice now before he decides to go west. "Stay in Ontario" is a slogan which rings in his ears. At Sir James Whitney's suggestion the present Dominion Government plans to assist the Provinces in their tasks by making them grants out of the Federal surpluses in aid of agriculture and in aid of highway improvement. This means much for Ontario.

The rapid growth of Ontario's cities and the increase in her industrial population have taxed the counties to their limit for the production of a food supply. The farmer has found that his output was far from sufficient and through lack of skilled help it was growing less. The high cost of living became an acute condition. Lack of farm help means smaller areas under cultivation and smaller dairy herds. This means idle acres and impoverished land, while increasing urban populations require an increased food supply.

Action on the part of the Government to relieve this situation continues in aggressiveness. The efforts of the Department of Agriculture to help the farmer are carried on through channels that have numerous ramifications. The story of the activities of the Department would be a chronicle in itself. Through his Provincial Government the farmer has a hand on his shoulder continually. Since 1907 the District Representative has been abroad in the land, and wherever he has appeared the farmer has taken hope. His acres have doubled and trebled in production. Years ago, when the Premier, Sir James Whitney, led the Opposition as Mr. J. P. Whitney, he saw