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Good Roads.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Quebec, 29th March, 1898.

SIR,

In 1897 the Department of Agriculture inaugurated a new policy for encouraging improvements to roads by granting aid to rural nunicipalities to enable them to purchase special machines for repairing roads.

Notwithstanding the bad weather that prevailed during last summer and last autumn and that was unfavorable for effecting repairs to roads, the results obtained have been most satisfactory. Seventy-seven municipalities have had their names entered so as to benefit by the advantage offered th m, and according to the official reports received up to date at the Department of Agriculture over 150 miles of road have been repaired since last June.

These results justify the Department in carrying out the system inaugurated last summer with the following modifications:—

A special grant of \$300.00 was placed last summer at the disposal of each county, to be divided into premiums of \$125.00, \$100 and \$75.00 between the first three muni cipalities that availed themselves of the same. The same grant will be given this year to the counties which shall not have claimed it in whole or in part between this and the month of July next.

In counties where the total amount of \$300 00 shall have been distributed between now and July, the Department will again grant, from and after that date, three premiums of \$75.00 each to the first three municipalities applying for the same. If a single municipalities applying for the same.