

## AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

There are 95 Electoral District Societies and 357 Township Societies in the Province, receiving an aggregate grant of \$76,300 annually. Their work is too well known to need description.

The finances of all Associations receiving Government aid are audited annually by the Department, and their work supervised.

## THE ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE AND EXPERIMENTAL FARM.

During the past twenty years the College has trained a large number of Ontario farmers' sons in improved agriculture. It has sent out bulletins and reports of great value. It has introduced improved stock and improved grains, and has stimulated thousands of Ontario farmers to test and experiment for themselves. The institution is thoroughly equipped and consists of the College, the Experimental Farm, the Experimental Dairy, Horticultural, Poultry and Mechanical Departments.

A total of 280 students attended the institution in 1893, as follows :

Students in general course .....	186
"    Dairy    " .....	60
"    Teachers' " .....	34

Of these 15 came from the other provinces, 18 from the British Isles and 6 from the United States and elsewhere.

The experimental work carried on at the Farm is very extensive and valuable.

## ORIGINAL WORK.

But other and new means have been devised by the Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Mr. Dryden, for the improvement of Agriculture.

**The Travelling Dairy** was organized in 1891 to encourage butter-making and to place the butter product on a level with the cheese product in the markets of the world. It has held about 700 meetings in all parts of the Province, and is still in demand.

**A Special Dairy School** was organized in 1892, the object being to give instruction to practical men as to the latest and most approved methods in dairying. This school has supplied a large number of cheese and butter factories with competent managers.

**A Special Summer School** for teachers was organized in 1893 for the purpose of enabling teachers to give instruction in rudimentary Agriculture in the rural schools.

All these institutions are connected with the Agricultural College and charged against it.

**Experimental Fruit Stations** are now being established in various sections of the Province with the view of stimulating that great industry. The intention is by this means to ascertain the varieties of fruits best suited to each district.

## THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE.

In addition to the routine work of his office and the supervision of the work outlined above, the Minister of Agriculture makes it his business to mingle as much as possible with the farmers, learn their aims and difficulties and inspire them to continued efforts ; to guard their interests so far as legislation is concerned ; to deliver addresses on agricultural topics, and to advance their interests by every means that may suggest itself to an active mind.