

The Ontario Ploughmen's Association receives an annual grant of \$1,000 and awards in prizes \$2,500. The international ploughing match and farm machinery demonstration, which will be held this year in Chatham—the corn belt of Ontario—will attract not less than 30,000 visitors.

To encourage the farmers of Northern Ontario the Government gives agricultural societies in that section two dollars for every dollar raised by themselves, and in addition a special grant of \$5,000 is provided to assist them.

The early results that had attended the innovation of the Department in interesting boys and girls in farm life and agriculture by the holding of school fairs warranted an extension of the work. From the figures compiled in respect of these fairs for 1918 it is abundantly evident that the school fair goes a long way toward solving the problem of conveying scientific and practical instruction to the young people of the farm.

School Fairs

In 1904 no school fairs were held in the Province.

In 1914, 150 school fairs were held.

In 1918, 307 school fairs were held.

These 307 fairs embraced	2,368 schools,
	71,086 pupils,
	67,938 plots,
	117,749 entries,
and an attendance of	86,348 children,
and	94,888 adults.

These figures are a plain testimony of the growing popularity and usefulness of the school fairs. In addition to the seed supplied for the plots the Department through the Agricultural Representatives distributed 9,940 dozen eggs from bred-to-lay strains.

In developing the social side of farm life and accomplishing practical results in relation to domestic farm problems and securing the betterment of rural conditions no agency has been of greater usefulness than the Women's Institutes. These organizations have grown in size and influence under the direction of the Department.

Number in 1904	57
Number in 1914	625
Number in 1918	900
Membership in 1904	5,433
Membership in 1914	24,000
Membership in 1918	30,000