

NOTES ON THE WORK OF THE FEDERAL ENTOMOLOGICAL BRANCH.

This Branch entered the field as a distinct Division of the Experimental Farm's Branch in 1909. Such important practical results followed almost immediately upon the initiation of the divisional activities that, within a very few years, the Division had been elevated to the status of a Branch with laboratories in all the provinces except P.E.I. If the history of these laboratories be inquired into, it will be found that practically all new lines of work have been undertaken in response to a demand from farmers or fruitgrowers societies or similar bodies.

In fact, the pressure for the department to undertake new lines of work to meet emergencies that constantly arise, has been so strong and so constant that one of the greatest difficulties encountered by the workers concerned has been to maintain various projects intact, in their efforts to meet urgent demands for new work.

Should a survey be now made of these laboratories, it would be found that, with few exceptions, they are manned by a particularly able, efficient and well trained staff, who have gradually mastered the technique of a highly specialized field of work, have "grown into" their particular problem and are rendering indispensable service in their own particular fields. None of them attained their present position of usefulness in a few months. The problems of the prairie province farmer are so different from those of the fruitgrower of the Annapolis Valley, for example, or the corn-grower of Ontario, that no man, however sound his basic training, could without years of experience and study be able to function usefully if transferred to