

get it we must increase our business. Subscribers are secured principally by canvassing, and experience has taught us that our readers are the best agents. We are willing to pay for the service, and our large list of premiums, all splendid value and fully up to representations, are the rewards offered for the comparatively slight effort of getting new names. In lieu of premiums, anyone who wishes may have his own subscription advanced six months for every new name he sends us, accompanied by \$1.50. By sending us two new names and \$3.00, he can get his own paper free

for one year. In addition to the premium reward is the far greater satisfaction of doing a public-spirited act. Every time you recruit our ranks by a new reader you are placing in his hands a medium of knowledge and progress that will benefit him many times the subscription price, and also indirectly benefit the community at large. There is no "look-agent" humbug about canvassing for "The Farmer's Advocate." All over the country practically all the best farmers take it, and freely attribute a considerable measure of their success to perusal of its pages. It is our firm con-

viction that, no matter how many other papers he may be getting, any Canadian farmer who does not take "The Farmer's Advocate" is standing in his own light. It is for our loyal army of present subscribers to assist in placing the facts squarely before this class, and we expect to do it with such success that our lists may be increased fifty per cent. this winter. "The Farmer's Advocate" expects every subscriber to do his duty this year. Fifty thousand names for 1907! How many can you send?

THE DOMINION DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

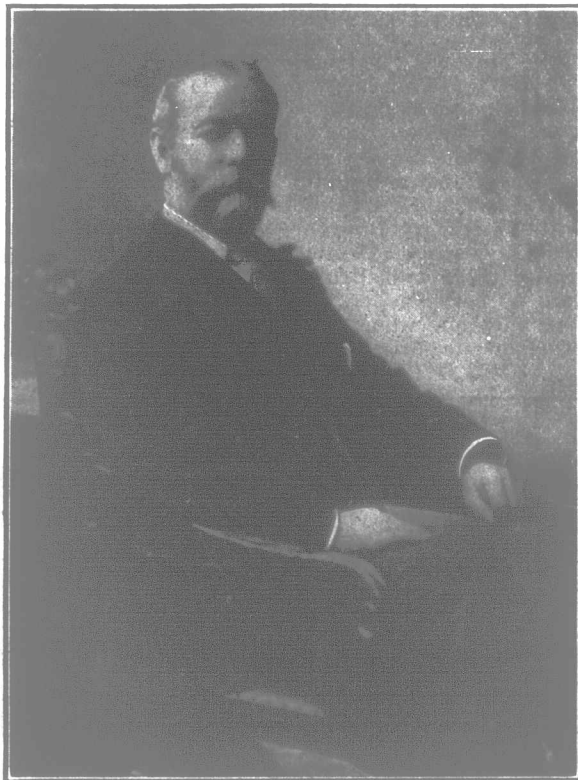
In many ways the people of Canada are continually reminded of the branch of Governmental administration at Ottawa called the Department of Agriculture. If you pick up a book published by a Canadian house, you will find it has been "Entered according to Act of the Parliament . . . at the Department of Agriculture." If you wish to secure a patent or record a trade-mark; if you have dealings with the Dominion Census officials or statisticians, or with Dr. Montizambert, Director-General of the Public Health Branch, you will notice "Department of Agriculture" on the stationery bearing the correspondence received. You may wonder why so many miscellaneous offices of Government should be vested in this one department. On second thought, however, it is not surprising. The farmer was never a man of leisure, and it would not be meet that his Cabinet representative should be, especially in the case of the present incumbent, who happens to be a bachelor. To make sure that he earns his salary, they long ago began saddling on his portfolio some half dozen branches about as directly related to agriculture as a schoolhouse is to a silo. But for all the responsibility, the Premier always manages to find a man for the place. He has not always been a farmer. Sometimes the Department of Agriculture has been a convenient Cabinet niche in which to ensconce a fluent speaker or clever politician. Hon. Dr. Montague, for instance, who held down the job for a year or so before Hon. Sydney Fisher, must have felt about as much at home on it as a turtle on a setting of hens' eggs. In Hon. Mr. Fisher we have a Minister who is an actual farmer, and, whatever is said in criticism, it must be admitted that during his tenure of office a marked development has occurred in the more strictly agricultural branches of this department.

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When in Ottawa, a round of the Agricultural Department is more or less worth while. The offices are not all together, but during the past year those of the Live-stock, Dairy, Seed and the Census-and-Statistics Branches have been moved to the new Canadian Building on Slater Street, just off Elgin, and but a few minutes' walk from the House of Parliament. You will not find here, on casual examination, anything to remind you very rudely of fields or stables; on the other hand, you will note in the corridors and offices the sway-backed swagger of the well-fed, well-rested Government clerk, whose time permits him to make imposing business out of ever so trivial details. Peering into the offices, you will be greeted genially, for visitors are always welcome, and there is usually time to entertain them. There is no "washing" to get out, or hay to haul in. All the same, should you make yourself acquainted, and get talking to G. H. Clark, J. A. Ruddick, A. McNeill, J. B. Spencer or W. A. Clemons, you will recognize the sensible man who has served his apprenticeship at practical work. They know their business, and will bear questioning and acquaintance. They are the stamp of well-posted, broad-gauge men who have done much in a commercial and, to some extent, an educational way for the several lines of Canadian agriculture. We need them there; they earn their money. In a country like ours, a well-manned, energetic Department of Agriculture is an eminent necessity. We trust an appreciation of its scope and effort may be gathered from the following paragraphs:

ORIGIN AND ORGANIZATION.

In 1851, under the Hincks-Morin Administration of Upper and Lower Canada, a Bureau of



Hon. Sydney Fisher.

Minister of Agriculture in the Dominion Cabinet.

Agriculture and Statistics was created. In 1862 the Bureau became a distinct Department, with Sir Narcisse Caron as Minister, and in 1864 Dr. J. C. Tache was appointed Deputy Minister of the Department, which, at Confederation, was continued with an extended scope, further widened by legislation of 1886



Geo. F. O'Halloran.

Dominion Deputy-Minister of Agriculture.

and subsequent years. Hon. Sydney Fisher, sworn in July 13th, is the ninth Minister of Agriculture since Confederation, and his present Deputy, Geo. F. O'Halloran, appointed May, 1902, is the fourth to occupy that position.

The Department is divided into eleven—or perhaps we should now say ten—Branches, each with a separate head, directly responsible to the Minister. Several of these Branches are sub-

divided into two or more Divisions. The Branches are:

The Patent Branch.
The Trade-mark and Copyright Branch.
The Census and Statistics Branch.
The Public Health Branch.
The Experimental Farms Branch.
The Veterinary Branch.
The Exhibition Branch.
The Archives Branch.
Seed Commissioner's Branch.
Dairy Commissioner's Branch.
Live-stock Commissioner's Branch (lately merged with the Veterinary Branch, under Dr. Rutherford).

Mr. Fisher, who represents the constituency of Brome, Que., is a Cambridge-University-trained farmer, somewhat of the English country-gentleman type, and is known through the country as a breeder of Guernsey cattle. Of unquestionable character, broad-minded, and fluent of speech, he has administered his Department with a mind of his own, always having regard for what he conceived to be the interests of agriculture and the national well-being. He has demonstrated capacity in his choice of lieutenants, and never loses an opportunity to uphold the dignity of his Department and the industry it represents.

Geo. F. O'Halloran is the man whose facsimile signature franks Departmental correspondence through the mails. Unlike Prof. James, of Toronto, he does not profess much practical knowledge of agriculture. His duties are rather executive, scrutinous and advisory. All the same, they will tell you around the Department that he has pretty shrewd ideas about farming and things pertaining thereto. His unrelenting acumen is a terror ever before the mind of the doer of shady deeds. They "can't fool the Deputy."

THE DAIRY COMMISSIONER'S BRANCH.

We refer to this Branch first in order, because it enables us to bring in conveniently a few words about the man who has done probably more in an official capacity for Canadian agriculture than any other man in or out of the present arena. Prof. James W. Robertson was translated from the chair of Professor of Dairy Husbandry, O. A. C., Guelph, Ont., to the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa, where he was given the post of Commissioner of Dairy Husbandry for the Dominion of Canada, and later, Commissioner of Agriculture and Dairying, with subvention extended to practically the whole range of agricultural effort. Here he put forth herculean and amazingly successful efforts to bring about an improvement in the quality and increase in the output of Canadian dairy products, to improve the conditions under which they were transported to Old World markets, and to establish there an enviable reputation for our goods, particularly our cheese. He infused a spirit of enterprise into the whole agricultural life of the Dominion. Meanwhile his genius for organization was reaching out and building up new divisions of his department. These he manned capably, and infused into his appointees a reflex of his own indomitable energy, till the wooden old Department became fairly vibrant with activity and pregnant with suggestions and plans for the extension of our agricultural prowess. In 1904 he resigned, to devote himself to Sir William Macdonald's Agricultural-College enterprise at St. Anne de Bellevue, Que. Advantage of this change was taken by the Minister to readjust things by appointing three commissioners in place of Prof. Robertson, viz., J. A. Ruddick, Dairy Commissioner; F. W. Hodson, Live-stock Commissioner, and G. H. Clark, Seed Commissioner. Under these heads, the remaining divisions, such as the Fruit Division, Poultry Division, etc., were grouped according to administrative convenience.

The Dairy Branch consists of four divisions, viz., Dairy, Fruit, Extension of Markets and Cold Storage Divisions. Mr. Ruddick, the Commissioner, joined the Dominion Government service in 1891 as the first of Prof. Robertson's staff of experts. Previously he had obtained a wide experience and a practical knowledge of the factory end of dairying. In 1894 he resigned to become Superintendent of the Kingston, Ont., Dairy