

DOMINION OF CANADA
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Branch of the Commissioner of Agriculture and Dairying

THE ANNOUNCEMENT

OF THE

MACDONALD-ROBERTSON SEED GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

By JAS. W. ROBERTSON,

Commissioner of Agriculture and Dairying.

With a view to encouraging further the production and general use of seed of superior quality for farm crops, the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture for Canada has authorized me to announce that the Department of Agriculture will grant such assistance as may be necessary to enable an association or associations of producers of improved and registered seed to carry on effective work.

In all kinds of farm crops the yield per acre may be materially increased and the quality substantially improved by the use of seed which has been graded up by careful growing and systematic, intelligent selection, continued without interruption from year to year.

The qualities known as vigour of growth and productiveness in individual plants, are transmitted through their seeds to the succeeding crops quite as surely as any desirable characteristics are transmitted to animals from their ancestors.

All seed for general use should be obtained from varieties of which the quality has a relatively good market value, from crops which have attained a high degree of productiveness, and from localities where the climatic conditions are not much different from those where the seed is to be used.

All farms and all kinds and conditions of soils are not well adapted for the production of seed of superior quality, of all kinds of crops. Grain, and other seeds, for seed purposes, should be produced on lands that are free from noxious weeds and capable of producing those crops at their best in quality and in yield per plant.

There is a need and opportunity in every agricultural locality in Canada for a few farmers to make a specialty of growing high-class seed in quantity for the purposes of seed as distinguished from grain for feed or food. There would be immediate profit to all growers who managed that special branch of farming with care and intelligence. Other farmers would seek from them the supplies of seed for their general farm crops.

The best results for all concerned are to be obtained from organized effort, under intelligent direction. Associations of farmers making a specialty of growing grain and other crops for seed purposes on well kept and highly conditioned farms, should be organized as a means of improving their seed and of educating buyers and farmers generally on the value of pure-bred registered seed.