

WHY THE FARMERS SHOULD SUPPORT THE MOWAT GOVERNMENT.

The Work of the Department of Agriculture.

Agriculture is undoubtedly the foundation industry of Ontario. About two-thirds of our people are directly interested in it. When Agriculture is depressed all other industries languish; when it flourishes all others prosper and increase.

The Mowat Administration, recognizing that much might be done to promote the welfare of this paramount industry by intelligent Government direction, recently organized a separate Department for Agriculture, with a responsible Minister (a practical farmer), at its head.

While the other Departments of the Provincial Government are engaged in the control of the various branches of public business entrusted to their care by the people, the position of the Department of Agriculture is somewhat different—it exists primarily in the interests of a class of the community, namely, the farmers. Everything that tends to their welfare comes within the scope of its work, and

"ADVANCE AGRICULTURE!"

might well be taken as its motto. This advancement the Department seeks to accomplish by several means.

The conditions surrounding farming have been revolutionized during the past twenty years. The world's trade is also changing, and the intelligent farmer must keep himself acquainted with these changes. In these days of keen competition, in order to keep abreast of the times, the farmer must have a thorough knowledge of his business from the beginning; he must produce the best possible results with the least possible outlay; he must endeavor to make two blades of grass grow where one grew formerly. His hope lies in being more skilful than his competitors in other lands. He can attain this advanced position only by the application of the most approved methods. The chief aim of the Department, therefore, is to collect, systematize and disseminate such information as will be of value to him in his calling.*

*N.B.—This is the Department that the Opposition declares should be made the Appendix of the other Department.