

short course. A total of 225 and 100 respectively attended similar courses at Chatham and Kempsville, while a total of 12,270 attended 32 one or two day courses which were held in nearly every county in the Province throughout the winter. To-day there are approximately 1,000 tractors in use by the farmers of Ontario.

Field Crop Competitions

	1904	1913	1918
Number of Societies	0	159	180
Number of Competitors	0	3,500	7,500
Number of Acres	0	35,000	40,000

When the standing field crop competitions were inaugurated the Government grant amounted to \$1,000. For the current year the grant to agricultural societies holding field crop competitions is \$25,500. Out of this the Dominion Government gives a special subvention of \$14,000. These annual field crop competitions have grown in importance under the leadership of the Department, and the publicity given to the awards enables the farmers to find a ready market for their grains. Indeed some have received as much as 150 per cent. more than the current market price for their crops.

Agricultural Societies

The total amount expended through the Agricultural Societies Branch is about \$225,000. There are 350 agricultural societies in the Province, and in 1918 these received in grants \$90,000.

The attendance at these fairs last year was over 1,200,000. To these societies the Department sends out 150 expert judges, free of charge, for the field crop competitions, while 250 judges are assigned for other purposes. Owing to adverse weather conditions and the consequent falling off in gate receipts a fund was provided as insurance against bad weather.

To spring seed fairs, horse and cattle shows \$3,500 is paid.

The horticultural societies have grown until they now have a membership of 20,000 and receive \$17,000 in grants.

The Ontario Vegetable Growers' Association receives an annual grant of \$800. This Association has branches all over the Province and holds field crop competitions.

In previous years the beautification of homes and parks and public buildings has been confined almost entirely to urban municipalities. The Act has been changed so that rural municipalities may take up this line of work.