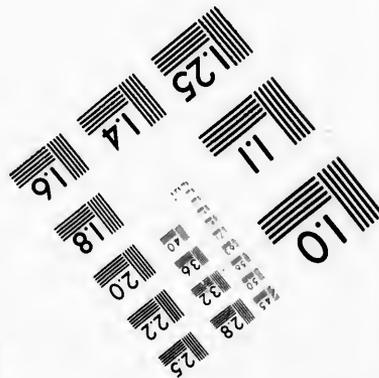
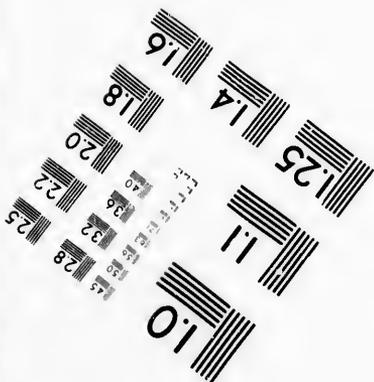
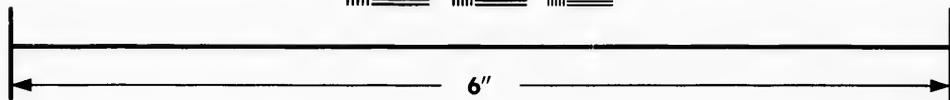
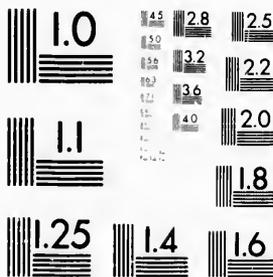


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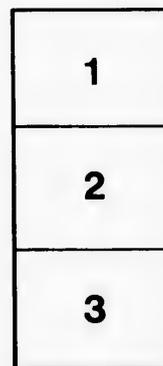
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**The Work of the Department of Agriculture.**

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 hopes are 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.\*

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

## BULLETINS AND REPORTS.

The Department has issued the following number of bulletins during the past three and a half years:

1891 .....	217,250	copies.
1892 .....	511,500	"
1893 .....	471,500	"
1894 (to June 1st) .....	236,850	"
	<b>1,436,600</b>	"

These deal with a variety of subjects, containing the results of experiments in breeding and feeding, and the cultivation of crops, information on the dairy and fruit industries, the destruction of noxious pests, the treatment of diseases, the building of roads and various other topics.

The Department also prints and distributes the Reports of the various Associations that come under its supervision and have for their object the promotion of Agriculture in its several branches. These are allowed an annual grant from the public funds in order that they may successfully carry on the work they have in hand. They are as follows:

Fruit Growers' Association.....	\$1,800
Entomological Society.....	1,000
Dairymen's Associations .....	5,500
Agriculture and Arts Association.....	4,600
Sheep Breeders' Association.....	850
Swine Breeders' Association.....	700
Experimental Union.....	700
Creameries' Association.....	2,000
Poultry Associations.....	1,300
Bee-Keepers' Association.....	1,100
	<b>19,550</b>

## BUREAU OF INDUSTRIES.

The Bureau of Industries is the statistical branch of the Department. It publishes a report upon the quantities of farm products, their market values, the values of farms, a labor report, and a report dealing with loan companies, chattel mortgages, etc. The statistical data for these reports is gathered and compiled in the most thorough and systematic manner. After four years of work the Municipal Report, dealing with municipal finances, is now ready for distribution.

In 1893 the Department issued sixteen reports in all, aggregating nearly 2,000 pages of printed matter, and a total of 164,940 copies were distributed. The task of printing these publications and distributing them through the mail to members of Farmers' Institutes and others is a very heavy one.

## OTHER MEANS.

The other educative means employed are (1) Farmers' Institutes, (2) Agricultural Societies, (3) The Ontario Agricultural College.

## FARMERS' INSTITUTES.

This institution was practically the creation of the Government, and its object is to enable farmers to meet together and discuss their work. There are 85 Institutes in the Province, each receiving an annual grant of \$25. For the January meetings of the present year 31 speakers were provided by the Department, who addressed meetings at 154 different points in Ontario.

**AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.**

There are 95 Electoral District Societies and 357 Township Societies in the Province, receiving an aggregate grant of \$76,300 annually. Their work is too well known to need description.

The finances of all Associations receiving Government aid are audited annually by the Department, and their work supervised.

**THE ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE AND EXPERIMENTAL FARM.**

During the past twenty years the College has trained a large number of Ontario farmers' sons in improved agriculture. It has sent out bulletins and reports of great value. It has introduced improved stock and improved grains, and has stimulated thousands of Ontario farmers to test and experiment for themselves. The institution is thoroughly equipped and consists of the College, the Experimental Farm, the Experimental Dairy, Horticultural, Poultry and Mechanical Departments.

A total of 280 students attended the institution in 1893, as follows :

Students in general course .....	186
"    Dairy    " .....	60
"    Teachers' " .....	34

Of these 15 came from the other provinces, 18 from the British Isles and 6 from the United States and elsewhere.

The experimental work carried on at the Farm is very extensive and valuable.

**ORIGINAL WORK.**

But other and new means have been devised by the Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Mr. Dryden, for the improvement of Agriculture.

**The Travelling Dairy** was organized in 1891 to encourage butter-making and to place the butter product on a level with the cheese product in the markets of the world. It has held about 700 meetings in all parts of the Province, and is still in demand.

**A Special Dairy School** was organized in 1892, the object being to give instruction to practical men as to the latest and most approved methods in dairying. This school has supplied a large number of cheese and butter factories with competent managers.

**A Special Summer School** for teachers was organized in 1893 for the purpose of enabling teachers to give instruction in rudimentary Agriculture in the rural schools.

All these institutions are connected with the Agricultural College and charged against it.

**Experimental Fruit Stations** are now being established in various sections of the Province with the view of stimulating that great industry. The intention is by this means to ascertain the varieties of fruits best suited to each district.

**THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE.**

In addition to the routine work of his office and the supervision of the work outlined above, the Minister of Agriculture makes it his business to mingle as much as possible with the farmers, learn their aims and difficulties and inspire them to continued efforts ; to guard their interests so far as legislation is concerned ; to deliver addresses on agricultural topics, and to advance their interests by every means that may suggest itself to an active mind.

## WHAT MORE COULD BE DONE?

Even if every member of the Legislature were a farmer, it is difficult to understand what more could be undertaken in the interests of Agriculture than has been done under Sir Oliver's administration.

The only additional expenditures necessitated in placing the Department on an independent footing was for salary of Minister and his secretary, \$5,000.

## WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED.

Ontario's unrivalled showing in all branches of Agriculture at the World's Fair is largely the result of organized effort to advance the industry.

According to the last report of the Dairymen's Association, there are twice as many butter factories to-day as there were three years ago. Dairy butter in 1893 obtained a cent and a half a pound more in the Toronto market than it did in 1892. If the general price had gone up, the price of creamery butter would have advanced also, but it has not. This proves that the advance must be due to the improved quality of dairy butter. Fifty million pounds of dairy butter are produced annually in Ontario, and this advance in price therefore means an increase in the value of the produce of three-quarters of a million dollars. The credit for this is chiefly due to the travelling dairy.

There are over one-third more cheese factories in the Province than there were ten years ago, while the amount and value of the cheese exported have more than doubled in that period.

It is not unreasonable to claim that a considerable proportion of the credit for this great advancement is due to the efforts of the Department and the various organizations connected with it in the work.

## Statement showing the amounts spent annually to promote Agriculture by Ontario and several States of the Union.

	Amount spent.	Number of Farms.	Area of Improved Land.
	\$		acres.
New York ('93).....	263,165	226,223	16,389,380
Illinois (approx.) .....	60,000	240,681	25,669,060
Indiana ('93) .....	46,495	198,167	15,107,482
Wisconsin ('91) .....	64,545	146,409	9,793,931
Michigan ('93) .....	33,232	172,344	9,865,350
Ohio ('93) .....	74,526	251,430	18,338,824
Massachusetts ('93) .....	66,494	34,374	1,657,024
<b>ONTARIO ('93).....</b>	<b>212,660</b>	<b>175,000</b>	<b>11,988,426</b>

The above States all receive Federal aid to their Agricultural Colleges or Experiment Stations.

*Copies of this Pamphlet may be had from ALEXANDER SMITH, 34 Victoria Street, Toronto, at \$1.00 per 1,000.*

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