

will towards all sections of our fair Dominion and has been blessed during the year with splendid weather conditions and an abundant crop, thus giving an added encouragement to those engaged in agricultural pursuits. For these blessings we should be truly grateful to Divine Providence.

While it is true that our agricultural industry is not participating in such prosperous times as induced by the high price of wheat, which has been the good fortune of our Western farmers, and though we have an over production in root crops, such as potatoes, our farmers generally speaking, have enjoyed a fairly steady market. Early last fall, my Government in a joint effort with produce merchants and others interested in obtaining markets for farm produce, was successful in opening a market in the British Isles for our large potato crop. It was necessary at that time to take steps for the removal of an embargo on Canadian potatoes. Immediately upon the removal of this embargo, very large quantities of potatoes found their way into the markets of the Mother Country. Unfortunately, however, this embargo was restored a few weeks ago, and our new market closed. All attempts so far to have this obstruction removed have proved unavailing. My Government, ever mindful of the importance of the agricultural industry, learning of a probable new market in Western Canada, has been negotiating with every hope of success to obtain such an equitable adjustment of freight rates to points throughout the West and on to the Pacific Coast, as would permit of large shipments with reasonable profits of the surplus stock still remaining in the Province. It is hoped that by this means our farmers may be compensated for whatever disadvantage might result from the English embargo.

I am pleased to note the ever increasing interest which is being taken in the short courses given at our Agricultural School, the attendance this winter being very much larger than formerly, and my Government is convinced that it cannot too strongly impress upon our agriculturists the vast importance of this school and the great benefits that will accrue to those who will take advantage of the instructions given by competent and experienced teachers. Greater interest than ever has been manifested in the Dairy Industry, and it is gratifying to note that our Province is rapidly assuming a foremost position in this important branch of agriculture.

I regret to have to point out that our great lumber industry has not yet fully recovered from the depression which was felt during the years immediately following the reconstruction period after the war, but we have every reason to hope that the final settlement of European conditions will have the effect of strengthening the lumber market both in Europe and the United States. The steady growth of the manufacture of pulp and newsprint in our Province has been the one bright spot in the lumber industry during the last year.

The extremely important position that Public Health occupies today upon the programs of Governments everywhere, and the far reaching influence from humanitarian and economic viewpoints that is being exerted upon nations, states and communities where such practical legislation is being properly administered, prompts me for a moment to direct your attention to a few of the outstanding features of the work in this particular that is being carried on in this Province. I note that the incidence of communicable diseases has been lessened by over