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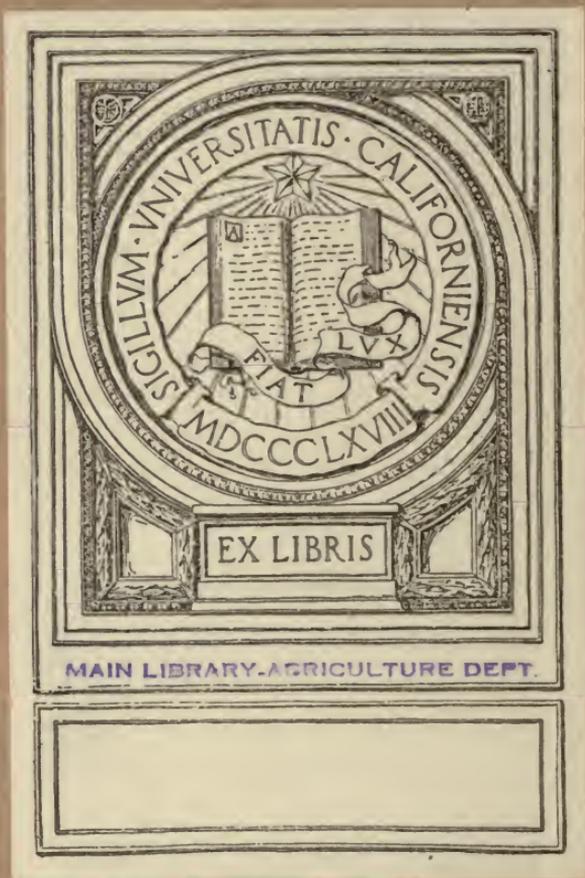
A SHORT REVIEW
OF
AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY
IN
NORWAY
AND
OF OFFICIAL EFFORTS FOR
THEIR ADVANCEMENT

BY
O. T. BJANES
DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE

(ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.)

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A well-built farmstead.

GENERAL SURVEY

Agriculture, in the most extensive signification of the word in the Norwegian language, embraces the utilisation of the surface of the country, including not only the actual soil but also the forests, mountain ranges and freshwater lakes and rivers. Thus, agriculture in Norway comprises the working of the farms together with cattle-raising and dairying, horticulture, forestry, the hunting of game and fishing, as well as the breeding and keeping of reindeer. Of these pursuits the utilisation of the soil itself and of the forests plays an altogether predominating part from an economic point of view.

In general, however, the term »agriculture« is employed only with respect to the utilisation of the soil for farming and gardening operations, while the expression »forestry« is used of everything pertaining to the conservation and management of woods and forests. To forestry belongs also the preservation and pursuit of game.

Norway lies very far to the north and extends from south to north over a great number of degrees of latitude, namely, from 58° to 71° north latitude. This situation of the country necessitates a great variation with respect to the utilisation of the soil. Whereas, south of the polar circle there can be grown ordinary agricultural products and in the more southerly parts of the country also the more sensitive plants, such as wheat and garden produce, the most northerly part of the country is mostly given over to the cultivation of grass.. It deserves to be mentioned, however, that in spite of the northerly situation barleys ripens (down by the sea-shore) in favourable years right up to about 70° north latitude,



Typical Norwegian farming district.

while potatoes may give a fair yield right up to the most northern point of the country.

Norway has an area of about 320 000 sq. km. Of this area about 70 % is unproductive and consists of mountain, water etc. Some portions of this waste land, however, are utilised for pasturing.

The total area of land under cultivation in the country amounts to 699 075 hectares. Of this area 324 416 hectares consist of tillage-lands and 368 501 hectares of meadow. To this must be added 283 965 hectares of natural pasture. The area of forestland in the country is estimated at 7 105 468 hectares, of which 1 872 442 hectares consist of forestland interspersed with pastures.

The farms in Norway are in general of small extent. The average area of cultivated ground (tillage-land and artificial meadow) on the separately registered farms is about 3.41 hectares. 92.47 per cent of the 203,440 separately registered farms in the whole country have under 10 hectares of cultivated ground. Of the remaining 7.53 per cent 11 112 holdings (5.46 %) have between 10 and 20 hectares, 2,768 holdings (1.36 %) have between 20 and 30 hectares, 1176 holdings (0.58 %) between 30 and 50 hectares, 184 holdings (0.09 %) between 50 and 70 hectares, 55 holdings (0.03 %) between 70 and 100 hectares, and 26 holdings (0.01 %) have over 100 hectares. To the most of these holdings there belongs more or less woodland and often comparatively large stretches of grazing-land.

Of Norway's about 2 600 000 inhabitants nearly one million, or about 40 %, are engaged in agriculture. The amount of cultivated land per inhabitant of the country is about 0.3 hectares, a very small area in comparison with most other European countries. Of the countries of Europe only England, Switzerland, Holland and Belgium have a smaller area of cultivated land per inhabitant.

By far the greatest number of farmers are self-owners. The renting of land is, both absolutely and in comparison with other countries, very little practised in Norway. The principal group of holders on such tenure is formed by the so-called »husmenn« (cottars), i. e., persons who hold a small plot of ground and a house from a farmer in return for the obligation of working a certain number of days in the year on the latter's farm. Besides these there is a small number of tenants-for-life, tenants by the year and leaseholders. Of the separately registered holdings in our country about 94 % are freehold farms, whereas the corresponding figures in other countries are as a rule much lower.

The owner lives on the farm and works it together with his family. In the case of the somewhat larger farms there is besides some hired help. Occasionally, the cultivated land is owned by companies, by the state, by the local authorities or by individuals who do not live on the spot.

The cultivated land is utilised mainly for the production of corn (barley, oats, rye and wheat) and of fodder (hay, green crops, turnips),



Farm in a mountain district.



A »Seter«.



The State horse-breeding »seter«.

as well as potatoes. Before the war the production of hay occupied a very large place — no less than 68 % of the cultivated ground. For corn-growing there was employed only about 23 % and for potatoes, turnips etc. about 9 %. During the war this state of affairs was essentially altered. In 1918 the area of meadow on cultivated ground had gone down to a little over 48 %, the area under corn had gone up to about 40 % and the area under potatoes, turnips, green crops etc. to 12 %. It may, however, be presumed that some of this increase in the area of tilled land will decline according as normal conditions again come into force. The crops of fodder, as well as much of the corn, are generally used for feeding the live-stock on the farm (cows, horses, swine), which in many parts of the country is stalled from September to June. Throughout large portions of the country there are to be found extensive ranges of mountain grazing-lands, often at a considerable distance from the farm, on which the live-stock is kept during several months in the summer. Both the milking and the handling of the milk then proceeds as a rule at the grazing-run (the »seter«).

Large connected areas of which the soil is used for gardening purposes are only exceptionally to be met with, and then usually in the vicinity of the towns. Otherwise, each farm has generally a small garden, and the cultivation of fruit and berries is very common throughout large parts of the country.

The yield per unit of area is comparatively large. According to

official statistics the average yield per hectare for the whole country in the five-year period 1911—1915 was as follows:

Hay	3650 kg.
Wheat	1780 »
Rye	1800 »
Barley	1960 »
Oats	1760 »
Mixed corn (oats and barley)	1920 »
Peas	1600 »
Potatoes	17510 »
Turnips	41920 »

Owing to the climatic conditions the tilling of the land, except in some coastal districts in the south-west, can only be carried on in the summer — from April or May till October. Sowing and harvesting, as well as the breaking up of land for cultivation, can thus as a general rule only proceed during that period.

The climate affords very healthy conditions for working. The summer temperature seldom exceeds 25 degrees Centigrade, and the temperature in winter is seldom below the same number of degrees of frost.

As already mentioned, the crops produced are in general used for feeding the stock on the farm. Thus, throughout the whole country tillage and cattle-rearing are carried on side by side on almost every single holding. But it is also seldom that these operations are carried on alone. A more or less extensive area of forest belongs as a rule to the holdings throughout the greater part of the country. These forests supply the necessary timber for the farm-buildings and for fuel, but in most cases the area of woodland is so large that there may also be a considerable quantity of timber for sale. The work in the forests proceeds in the winter and thus provides occupation at a time when, owing to the climatic conditions, the actual farm-work is greatly restricted. In the west and north of Norway agriculture is closely connected with the great fishing industry, which is mostly carried on in the winter season, whereby both the farmer and his labourers find employment during that part of the year.

During the last few decades the use of labour-saving machinery and better methods of cultivation has attained great extension and, regarded from this point of view, has reduced the need for labourers in agriculture. This, however, has on the other hand been counteracted by the fact that farming has constantly become more intensive. The work required to be performed on each unit of area has thus been steadily and automatically increased. Which of these factors, the labour-saving or the labour-demanding, has in the long run gained the upperhand it would perhaps be difficult to decide. Meanwhile, it is a fact that agriculture has for a long time been suffering from the constant lack of sufficiently skilled

workers. One of the main causes of this state of affairs is to be found in the rapid development of our industries. The higher wages which the industries have been able to offer, the apparently freer conditions of life for the industrial worker and the psychological attraction exercised by the towns have drawn much of the labour-supply to the cities and centres of industry. The difficult economic situation of our agriculture from the years around 1870 and until the outbreak of the war has also led to the result that a large part of our best agricultural labour has emigrated.

Meanwhile, the need for hired labour is comparatively small in Norwegian agriculture. As already stated, the majority of the farms are so small that they are worked by the owner and his family without any considerable amount of hired help. In addition to the before-mentioned cottars (*husmenn*), whose number is about 17,000, there are about 75,000 farm-servants (male and female) who have board and lodging on the farms and a smaller number of day-labourers and job-workers.

The most of the workers live and eat with their employers and go to work together with the latter.

There thus exists only to a slight degree the difference in social standing between farmers and farm-workers which we find in countries where farming is on a larger scale.

It must also be mentioned that the use of electricity has of late years become widely extended also in the rural districts all over the country — thanks to Norway's great wealth in water-power. This renders possible a considerable extension of home-industry and thereby the utilisation of unoccupied labour during the quieter periods of the year, a circumstance which may of the greatest importance in securing for the farm-workers steady employment during the whole year and thus binding them more closely to the soil by ensuring them better economic conditions.

Owing to the great extent of the country and its mountainous conformation the means of communication by road or railway are in many districts far from satisfactory. As a set-off to this, the use of the telephone has developed to an extent that is probably unparalleled in any other country. In most of the rural districts the great majority of the farmers and artisans, and in fact, even some of the common labourers, have a telephone, which contributes considerably to facilitate the means of communication.

The rearing of live-stock is of great importance and constitutes an important part of the operations throughout the whole country. In the mountain districts and in the northern parts of the country cattle-raising is the main factor in the working of the farms.



Eastland stallion.



Eastland stallion.



Eastland mare.

Fot. Svenkerud



Westland stallion.



Westland mare.

In the various classes of live-stock there occur several distinct breeds.

Thus there are 2 different breeds of horses, namely: the Eastland-horse and the Westland-horse.

The first-mentioned is a middle-sized horse, mostly brown in colour, which is bred chiefly in the eastern part of Norway and in the Trondhjem district. The stallion's height over the withers is about 168 cm. (the largest stallions up to 175 cm.) and its average weight is 660 kg. It is cleanlegged, muscular, well-built and of energetic temperament, and is suitable for various uses, such as farm-work, timer-drawing, driving on the roads and for military purposes.

The West-land horse is smaller (The stallion's height over the withers about 152 cm.). The colour is most frequently dun or pale yellow. It is exceptionally cleanlegged, has much power of endurance and is in proportion to its size a strong horse with a lively temperament. It is, so to speak, specially created for the hilly country and narrow circumstances prevailing in the west of Norway and is excellently suited for small-holding.

The Norwegian horses can be used until an advanced age. Thus the Eastland-horse is generally worked up to more than 20 years, whilst the Westland-horse may well be worked up to 25 years old and more.

Among the many breeds of cattle in Norway may be mentioned the Red-polls, the Telemark-cattle, the gray and black Westland-cattle, the Gudbrandsdal- and Østerdal-cattle, the Røros cattle and the red Trondhjem-cattle. All these breeds are indigenous to the locality.

All cattle in Norway are milking-breeds and the animals have in proportion to their size a good milking-capacity.

The better-class herds give an annual yield of about 3000 kg. of milk per head or about 750 kg. pr. 100 kg. live weight, but it is not unusual for individual animals to yield up to 5000 kg. or more.

The kinds of sheep most in use are Cheviots and Oxford-downs ori-



Telemark goat (1200 kg. milk per year).

ginating from England, whereas the goats are practically speaking exclusively of Norwegian origin.

The goats are comparatively small, but are as a general rule good milkers. A herd of Telemark-goats at the State School for Teachers to Smallholders has in the year 1920 given an average yield of 970 kg. of milk. The best animal yielded 1210 kg.

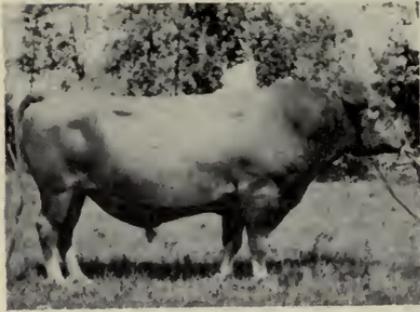
The health-conditions amongst the live-stock in Norway are very good. Foot-and-mouth disease, for example, does not exist and tuberculosis amongst cattle is of rare occurrence. Amongst goats tuberculosis is altogether unknown. (See hereinafter.)

As already stated, forest-lands constitute a considerable portion of the area of Norway, namely over 7 million hectares.

The principal forest trees are: fir (*picea excelsa*), pine (*pinus silvestris*), together with birch, lowland-birch (*betula verrucosa*) in the low-lying districts and mountain-birch (*betula odorata*) in the highland districts.

In the high-mountains the dwarf-birch (*betula nana*) covers extensive tracts of land.

In addition to three sorts of trees above mentioned there occur: ash (*fraxinus excelsior*), oak (*quercus pedunculata et sessiliflora*), beech



Red-poll bullock.



Red-poll cow.



Telemark bullock.



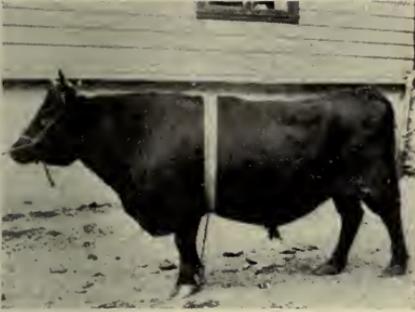
Telemark cow.



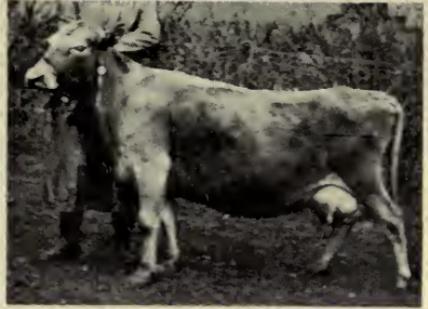
Røros bullock.



Røros cow.



Westland bullock,



Westland cow.



Trønder bullock,



Trønder cow.



Østerdal bullock,



Østerdal cow.

(*fagus silvatica*), lime (*tilia parvifolia*), alder (*alnus glutinosa et incana*), asp (*populus tremula*) and several others.

Considering the northerly situation of the country, the forests extend to a great height above the sea-level. In the Eastland the conifers extend up to 900 metres above the sea-level, while foliferous trees (birch) extend 200 or 300 metres higher.

The conditions of working are to a considerable degree facilitated by the long winter, with its settled weather and good conditions for transport, and by the many water-courses suitable for floatage of timber. The working of the forests must therefore, in spite of the mountainous nature of the country, be described as being easy. Thanks to the great extent of the forest area, a comparatively large number of workers can be kept in employment on the land during the whole year, seeing that the work in the woods proceeds chiefly in winter, whilst the summer is the busiest time for agriculture.

The output of the forests far exceeds the country's own requirements and there is therefore a large export of timber and other products of the forests, especially woodpulp and paper.

In the last few years the export of timber has risen to about 1,300,000 cubic metres per year, of woodpulp to about 700,000 tons and of paper and cardboard to about 200,000 tons. There are in existence 119 woodpulp-mills, some of which are very large, and a very large number of sawmills and planing-mills.

The main part of the forests are in private ownership, namely, about 84 %, of which 48 % belong to the farmers, while 36 % are worked without connection with agriculture. About 16 % belong to the State and other official or semi-official institutions.

OFFICIAL EFFORTS FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

The work for the advancement of agriculture and forestry comprises:
The official measures which are put into operation by the State administration for agriculture and forestry.
The work that is carried on by agricultural and forestry associations.
Educational system.

The State Administration for Agriculture.

The centre of the State administration for agriculture is the Department of Agriculture with its separate divisions or offices.

The Department has two divisions, each of them with its executive chief: The Agriculture and Concession Division and The Forestry and Veterinary Division. Under this latter belong also the freshwater fisheries and matters concerning reindeer and redistribution of intermixed holdings.

The Agriculture Division consists of the following offices:

1. The Agriculture Office, to which pertains the administration of most of the official measures for the promotion of land-cultivation and of the breeding of live-stock.

2. The Production Office, which has chiefly to do with the bringing of new land into cultivation, including the colonisation of uncultivated waste-lands.

3. The Concession Office, which deals with all matters concerning the acquirement of land, forest, bog and mountain.

4. The Information Office for Agriculture, which is quite a new office and of which the object is the collection of all information that is of interest for agriculture (farming, forestry etc.) and the publication of everything that may be supposed to be of importance for practical operations.

The Director of Agriculture acts as chief of the Agriculture and Production Offices. He is likewise chief of the agricultural officials of the State and of the State institutions in the sphere of agriculture and, moreover, directly conducts all the official measures for the promotion of farming and the breeding of live-stock.

Prior to 1900 the Director of Agriculture had his office apart from the Department of the Interior, like most of the other State Directors. When the Department of Agriculture was established in the said year the Director of Agriculture, as well as the Forestry and Veterinary Director, became more closely attached to that department by means of the arrangement mentioned above, whereby the directors are at the same time chiefs of the services in question and of the departmental offices.

The Directors' sphere of authority is defined partly by parliamentary rules and regulations and partly by the practice that has developed since 1900. They decide independently in most matters concerning the staffs of officials and the various state institutions and to a great extent correspond direct with them. Only specially important matters — especially such as involve the disposal of money — are submitted to the Department for decision.

This arrangement has the important advantage that it leads to a more intimate collaboration between the Department and the director and in a high degree simplifies the manner of dealing with the various matters. The greatest disadvantage in the arrangement is that there may easily arise friction and disputes regarding authority between the directors and the executive chiefs of the divisions.

The Agriculture Office and Production Office are each divided into two sections, namely: a technical section conducted by a sub-director with agricultural training, and legal section conducted by a chief clerk with legal qualifications.

The Concession Office is conducted by a chief clerk with legal training, and the Information Office by a chief clerk with agricultural training.

The Forestry and Veterinary Division has the following offices:

1. The Forestry Office, to which pertains all public administration concerning forests and forestry. The Director of Forestry conducts the office and stands in the same position towards the Department as the Director of Agriculture. In addition to the administration of woods and forests in general the Director of Forestry conducts the business management of the forests belonging to the State, which comprise a comparatively large area (See hereinafter). The office is divided into a technical and a legal section, as in the case of the Agriculture and Production Offices.

2. The Office for Reindeer and Freshwater Fisheries. The office is conducted by a chief clerk with legal qualifications. An expert adviser is appointed as consultant in matters concerning reindeer, and measures for the promotion of freshwater fisheries are under the control of the Fishery Inspector.

3. The Re-distribution Office, which conducts the work of re-distributing land where the situation of the holdings is disadvanta-

geous. This office is in charge of a technically trained re-distribution chief.

4. The Veterinary Office, which is the supreme authority for the civil veterinary system. The office is conducted by the Veterinary Director, who occupies the same position as the two other directors of the Department.

Under the Veterinary Director come also, amongst other things, the Veterinary Institute, matters concerning the inspection and control of meat, the import and export of domestic animals etc.

To the Department of Agriculture there are attached several Advisers having offices in the Department and whose work consists partly in being advisers to the Directors and to the Department in various technical questions, and partly in supervising the institutions under the control of the Department.

Under the Agriculture Division there are the following advisers of this kind:

The Inspector of Dairying, the Horticultural Adviser, the Adviser for Agricultural Schools and the Adviser for Housewifery Schools (this latter post being held by a lady).

Under the Forestry and Veterinary Division there are 3 Forestry Inspectors, only two of them having offices in the department), the above-mentioned consultant on matters concerning reindeer, the Inspectors of Fisheries, and one inspector of Redistribution.

Under the Department of Agriculture come likewise the following public agricultural officials and institutions for education, research etc.:

Norway's agricultural representatives abroad.

With a view to the advancement of the export of Norwegian agricultural products to foreign countries there has been appointed an adviser with residence in Newcastle since 1889. His task is to promote the reputation and sale of Norwegian agricultural products, especially on the English market, including also the export of live-stock to England.

After the establishment of The International Institute of Agriculture in Rome Norway has had since 1908 a representative in the Permanent Committee of the Institute. This same representative has also since 1912 been entrusted with the task of supplying reports regarding agriculture in Europe and its development. Since 1920 the holder of this post has been designated: Norway's Agricultural Delegate for Europe. As the delegate in question is at the same time Norway's representative in The Permanent Committee of The International Institute of Agriculture in Rome, the residence of the delegate is in Rome. In the same year a corresponding post was established with the desig-

nation: Norway's Agricultural Delegate for America, with residence in Washington.

The task of the agricultural delegates is to obtain all such information and experiences from abroad as may be of importance for Norwegian agriculture and to work for the best possible disposal of Norwegian agricultural products in foreign countries.

Public agricultural officials coming under the Director of Agriculture and whose salary and travelling expenses are paid entirely by the state:

1. 6 Agricultural Engineers with 4 assistants, whose business is to afford advice and guidance in technical agricultural questions and to work out plans for same.

2. 8 State Advisers in live-stock rearing, who direct the official measures for the advancement of live-stock rearing. They are thus in charge of the state exhibitions of live-stock, afford assistance in the selection of animals etc. Each of them has a specially defined district as his field of activity, except the adviser in the breeding of sheep and goats and the adviser in heredity-research, who have the whole of the country as their sphere of action.

3. 5 Advisers in Dairying, 1 Butter-making Adviser, 1 Cheese-making Adviser, 1 Adviser in the keeping of accounts regarding cattleraising and in making tests, and 1 adviser in matters concerning smallholders.

4. 1 Adviser in Seed-culture, who gives guidance especially in the culture of grass-seeds and root-crop seeds for agricultural purposes.

5. 1 State Entomologist and 1 State Mycologist, having the whole country as their sphere of action, who give advice and guidance regarding the enemies of cultural plants, insect pests and fungous diseases respectively, both in farming and in horticulture and forestry.

There is also an expert in the work of combating weeds: He is at the same time extraordinary professor at the Norwegian High School for Agriculture.

Public institutions carried on entirely for the account of the State and coming under the jurisdiction of the Director of Agriculture.

1. Experimental Stations in Plant-culture. Of these there are 6 experimental stations for agricultural plants and 2 for horticultural. The object of the experimental operations is partly to promote the improvement of plants and partly by means of comparative experiments to throw light on the questions which are of especial interest for the culture of plants in the various districts.

The most northerly station is situated at Bodø, somewhat over 67 degrees north latitude.

It has been decided to establish a new station in Troms County, which will probably be the most northerly experimental station for plant culture in the world, situated between 69 and 70 degrees north latitude.

In one of the existing stations the work is carried on with a view to the conditions in the mountain districts. It is situated in a mountain district about 530 metres above the sea-level.

2. Experimental Station in dairying the object of which is to improve the methods of dairying.

3. Experimental Station in the cultivation of new ground.

This station, which is quite new, is attached to one of the plant-culture stations (Forus in Jæren) and its object is to discover serviceable technical methods for new-cultivation.

4. Testing and Analysing Stations.

Of these there are 3 chemical-agricultural testing-stations, 2 seed-testing stations, 3 milk-testing stations. The first-mentioned make analyses and chemical investigations of interest for agriculture and give information on chemical-agricultural questions. The seed-testing stations examine corn and seed of all kinds and give information on questions concerning seeds.

The object of the milk-testing stations is to investigate the amount of fat contained in the milk. Their principal clients are the creameries.

The services of the above-named officials are given entirely free of charge. Likewise those of the experimental stations. For the investigations in the other stations a moderate charge is made.

5. Sheep-breeding and Goat-breeding Stations.

Of these there are 3 large and 3 smaller sheep-breeding stations, as well as 5 goat-breeding stations.

Agricultural Associations.

In addition to the above-mentioned officials and institutions maintained entirely by the State there are a number of officials and institutions for which the expenses are met partly by the State and partly by the respective districts.

1. One of the oldest of these associations is »Det kongelige Selskap for Norges vel« (The Royal Society for Norway's Weal), which was founded in 1809.

Its activities in the beginning embraced a very wide sphere, but it soon proceeded to become mainly an agricultural society. It has had,

and still has, the agricultural societies (see below) as its sub-sections, but these societies according as the state grants have been increased, have by degrees come into more direct connection with the State.

The work of this society has been directed towards the taking up of new questions for discussion and the starting of new undertakings in order, when they are well under way, to hand them over to the State.

Of late years, however, the society has also begun to work on tasks of a more permanent nature — in part scientific investigations.

It carries on a comparatively important activity in lecturing and at regular intervals holds meetings with lectures followed by discussions on agricultural questions of present-day interest. It issues a monthly publication: »Tidskrift for det norske landbruk« (Magazine for Norwegian Agriculture).

2. The Agricultural County Societies. The origin of these societies is of old date, but they have lately been re-organized so as to answer better to the conditions prevailing at the present time.

There exists 1 agricultural county society in each of the 18 counties of the Kingdom. The funds for their activities are provided half by the State and half by the district concerned (mainly a grant from the county).

The object of these societies is to work for the advancement of agriculture and its by-industries in their county. This object they seek to attain by means of officials who, like the state officials, give gratis instruction to the farmers, by the holding of exhibitions of the various kinds of live-stock and of farm and garden produce, by local experiments and by contributions to different useful undertakings.

The societies have sub-sections consisting of local unions of farmers and smallholders in the separate rural districts. These appoint representatives to the annual meetings of the societies, at which the executive committees are elected and especially important matters on which the societies are working are discussed. The State has made the following conditions for the granting of its contribution:

»Every agricultural society shall have an executive committee of 5 or 7 members, of whom 1 is to be elected by the County Council and the remainder by the annual meeting. The committee itself elects a chairman and vice-chairman. In so far as is feasible, the annual meeting shall elect its representatives first.

In the election it is to be observed that the committee — leaving out of account the member elected by the County Council — shall at every time consist of an equal number of smallholders and larger farmers.

In counties where the smallholders and the larger farmers have each their local union the election shall, provided at least 5 representatives for each group are present at the annual meeting, proceed by groups, so that the smallholder group elects representatives for the smallholders and the other group representatives for the larger farmers.« (Parliamentary Proceedings 1919.)

Each society shall have a permanent secretary who can devote all his time to the service of the society. It shall be a special duty of his to see that the sub-sections are working well.

The agricultural societies are assembled in an institution which bears the name »Det norske landbruksraad« (The Norwegian Agricultural Council). The chairmen of the societies are ex officio members of this council. Besides these, »Norsk Landmandsforbund« (The Norwegian Farmers' League) and »Norsk Bonde- og Smaabrukarlag« (The Norwegian Farmers' and Smallholders' Union) have each 4 representatives in the council, »Det kgl. Selskap for Norges Vel« (The Royal Society for Norway's Weal) has 2 representatives and »Det norske Skogselskap« (The Norwegian Forest Society) and »Norsk Skogeierforbund« (The Norwegian Forest-owners' League) each 2 representatives.

The statutes of the Agricultural Council (adopted by Parliament on the institution of the Council on July 4th 1919) are as follows:

§ 1.

The Agricultural Council shall be composed of the chairman, or in his absence the vice-chairman, of each of the agricultural county societies in the Kingdom, the president and vice-president of »The Royal Society for Norway's Weal«, four representatives elected by »The Norwegian Farmers' League«, four representatives elected by »The Norwegian Farmers' and Smallholders' Union«, 2 representatives elected by »The Norwegian Forest Society« and 2 representatives elected by »The Norwegian Forest-owners League«. Furthermore, the Council shall itself supplement its number with special experts or with scientists, up to the number of 5, these latter having the same rights and duties as the other members of the Council.

§ 2.

The Council shall itself elect its chairman and vice-chairman, who are to hold office for 2 years. Moreover, there shall be appointed a working committee consisting of the chairman, vice-chairman and 3 other members. The period of office for the last-named 3 members shall also be 2 years, 1 and 2 members alternately retiring by rotation every year. The first time 1 member retires by drawing of lots after 1 year's service in office.

Should any member of the working committee be obliged to retire because he has ceased to be a representative in the Council, a new member is to be elected for the remainder of his period of office.

As deputies for the members of the working committee 3 members of the Council are to be elected — for 2 years — as 1st, 2nd and 3rd deputy respectively.

The supplementary members mentioned in Par. 1 are also elected for a period of 2 years.

The working committee appoints a secretary to take charge of the Council's office.

§ 3.

The Council, which has its seat in Christiania, shall in general assemble once a year in connection with the meeting of representatives for The Royal Society for Norway's Weal.

But it may also assemble at other times, when the Department of Agriculture or the working committee find it necessary or when a meeting is demanded by at least one-third of the members of the Council.

§ 4.

The ordinary meeting of the Council shall deal with:

- a. The official measures for the advancement of agriculture.
- b. Matters which by the Department of Agriculture are submitted to the Council for discussion,
- c. Matters which the Council itself or any of its members propose for discussion.

§ 5.

The working committee shall assemble as often as the Department of Agriculture, the chairman or 2 of its other members shall consider necessary, and shall:

- a. prepare all matters which are to be dealt with by the assembled Council,
- b. deal with matters that require to be decided so promptly that they cannot be submitted to the assembled Council,
- c. intervene when it is considered necessary in order to guard the interests of agriculture.

§ 6.

The ordinary members of the Council receive allowance for travelling and maintenance expenses on the 1st class scale.

The members of the working committee receive, in addition to the same allowance for travelling and maintenance, a fee of Kr. 12 for each day they meet.

As already stated, this organisation is quite new, but it is mainly based upon old organisations of a similar nature. The Agricultural Council is, however, an entirely new institution established in 1919.

The arrangement aims at a decentralisation of the public administration in agriculture. In a land so extensive and varied as Norway it would be impossible for the central administration to familiarize itself with and to keep itself sufficiently well informed of the conditions and developments throughout the different parts of the country. But at the same time the arrangement aims at securing a firm connection and an active collaboration between the central administration and the local institutions, so that the work for the promotion of agriculture and cattle-

breeding on the part of the State and of the local authorities can proceed on exactly the same lines and be conducted on rational and economic principles.

The arrangement also aims at trying to get all the farmers, both small and large, to co-operate in the work. Therefore it is seen that among the conditions for the granting of a state contribution to the agricultural societies there is a special provision which secures for the small farmers representation in the direction of the societies.

Under the agricultural societies come also the so-called »Land Committees« (see hereinafter).

In addition to the above-mentioned agricultural officials in the service of the agricultural societies there have of late years been appointed several agricultural officials in the service of the local authorities: agriculturists and gardeners engaged by the Rural District Councils, itinerant teachers for smallholders etc.

One half of the cost of these officials is covered by the State. The other half is provided sometimes by a grant made by the County Council alone but most often one half (that is one fourth of the total cost) is granted by the County Council and the other half by the District Council in question. In exceptional cases a more or less large part of the district contribution is supplied by a Farmers' Union, a Horticultural Society or the like.

The following officials are at present employed in the service of the agricultural societies and of the local authorities: 52 County agriculturists, 28 county gardeners, and about 150 district agriculturists, district gardeners, itinerant teachers etc.

3. The Norwegian Farmers' League, which has been in existence for 25 years, is an association of farmers for the protection of their interests. It is built upon local associations throughout the country. Until 1920 the League was working on a purely professional basis and sought to exercise its influence in political matters through the existing political parties. But in 1920 it was decided that the League should operate as a separate political party and that the professional and political work should be carried on by separate sub-sections. By means of meetings and lectures around in the rural districts, of great national congresses and of agitation in the press etc. the League seeks to unite the farmers and arouse in them a convinced and vigilant interest for the part that is played by their class in the community.

4. The Norwegian Farmers' and Smallholders' Union is a young association, mainly formed as a parallel to the older non-political Farmers' League and embracing the small farmers (the interests of the smallholders).

Moreover, of associations embracing the whole country we have: »Det norske myrselskab« (The Norwegian Peat-bog Society), »Norsk forening til fjerfeavlens fremme« (Norwegian Society for the Promotion of Poultry-breeding), »Norsk biavlsforening« (Norwegian Bee-keepers' So-



Typical Norwegian forest landscape.

ciety), »Foreningen til kaninavlens fremme« (Society for the Promotion of Rabbit-breeding), »Nyttevekstforeningen« (Society for the Utilisation of useful Plants), »Ny Jord« (New Land) (see hereinafter), as well as »Det norske travselskab« (The Norwegian Trotting Club). All these get a state grant of varying extent.

In addition to the agricultural societies with their sub-sections and the above-named national societies there are a number of smaller local associations, some of which are joined to the above-mentioned national societies, while some have a more independent activity. Of these may be mentioned: Various kinds of societies for the breeding of live-stock, various societies for subsidiary industries, societies for purchase and sale of articles etc.

Some of them have a state grant, as, for instance, the societies for the acquirement and maintenance of valuable pedigree live-stock, while others work without such grant.

Officials and Institutions under the Direktor of Woods and Forests.

1. Officials.

In addition to the before-mentioned 3 Inspectors of Woods and Forests there are 40 forest-managers, 20 assistants and about 500 wood-rangers, all of whom are entirely in the service of the state and who have to do with the management of the forests belonging to the state, and of other public forests.

2. Institutions carried on entirely for account of the state.

The State Valuation Office for Forests.

This office directs the regulation of boundaries, the survey and valuation etc. of the public forests and of the forests which are offered for sale to the public authorities. The permanent staff consists of 2 forest-valuators and 4 assistants.

The National Valuation Office for Forests.

The purpose of this office is to furnish by means of direct measurements and investigations statistics regarding the Norwegian forests. Its task consists first and foremost in answering the following questions:

1. The area of forest and its distribution according to the different species and qualities of timber.
2. The existing supply of growing timber.



Typical Norwegian pine forest.

3. The amount of the current yearly increase, as well as a number of other questions.

The work in the field proceeds by counties in the form of lineal valuation.

The permanent staff of the National Valuation Office for Forests consists of 2 forest-valuators together with the office staff. The remaining officials for the field-work are engaged for every season.

According to plan the valuation is to be completed in the course of 5 years for 9 of the largest forest-growing counties in the country.

At the same time there shall be made out a census of the forestry industry embracing the whole country in order to ascertain the annual production of all the forests in the country and the consumption for household purposes. In this connection returns are collected from all the forest properties in Norway showing the output during 3 consecutive years.

Experimental Stations for Forestry.

For account of the State there was established in 1917 an experimental station for forestry situated at Aas near Christiania. The staff for the present consists of 2 experimentalists and 2 clerks.

Besides this there is also an experimental station for forestry affiliated to Bergens Museum.

The principal contributor to its support is the Norwegian Forestry Society.

Other official Arrangements for the Advancement of Forestry.

The State supports in various ways the work for the preservation and renewal of the forests. Thus there have been established in different parts of the country large nurseries of plants for sale. The State has likewise in many places erected drying-rooms for the obtaining of seed.

From 1872 the State began to plant the treeless wastes in the Westland and it has regularly carried on cultivation work in its own forests.

On the moors of the Westland the State has planted altogether 3709 hectares of forest, which has, generally speaking, thriven very well. The State also makes grants for private plantation and for plantation carried out by the local authorities. To the local authorities support is also afforded in the form of loans for the purchase of ground for planting. These loans are free of interest and of repayment of principal for 30 years.

In regions that are poor in woods and in districts where it may be feared that the forests, owing to the northerly situation or to the great height above the sea-level, will die out through mistreatment, the State preferably seeks to acquire the forests in order to preserve them.



Properly treated forest.

Semi-official and private Societies and Associations concerned with Forestry.

The Norwegian Forestry Society (Det norske Skogselskap), which was founded in 1898, works partly with private means and partly with grants from the State. Its objects are to diffuse information regarding the afforesting of treeless tracts and for the advancement of Norwegian forestry in general.

Under this society stand the local forestry societies (county forestry societies) in all the districts of the country — 1 in each county. The county forestry societies have in their service about 50 fully qualified officials, who give free of charge to the owners of forests guidance in all matters concerning forestry, in the same manner as is done in the case of agriculture by the agricultural official mentioned on pages 24 and 27.

Through the forestry societies the State gives grants towards the planting of forests — both to private plantations and to the local authorities.

The Norwegian Forest-owners' Union.

This union is an amalgamation of the local associations of forest-owners, which are to be found in most of the forest districts throughout the country. The union was founded in 1913 and its object is to protect the common interests of forest-owners, especially as regards the sale, transport, measurement and floatage of timber. The union also cooperates in all more important legal questions and otherwise in all important matters that are of interest for forestry.

Associations for Joint Floatage.

Pursuant to the law of the 1st of July 1887 concerning the utilisation of the water-courses, those persons for whose account the floatage in a river takes place are entitled, when the majority of them are agreed, to decide that the floatage shall proceed in common and under joint management, as well as to establish the rules under which the floatage is to be carried out. In order that the decision regarding the adoption of joint floatage or alterations in the adopted rules may be valid the majority must represent at least one-third of the quantity of timber floated in the water-course in question during the preceding year. The rules are subject to the approbation of the King in council. These combinations are called associations for joint floatage. Such associations have been established along most of the great water-courses throughout the country. They have by improving the river channels given a great impetus to the operation of floatage. The expenses are covered by a charge upon the timber that is transported by floating.

Associations for Measuring of Timber.

Until a few years ago the purchaser himself prescribed the rules for the measurement of the timber he bought and himself got the mea-



Mountain farm with forest (mountain birch) (About 1000 metres over sea-level).

suring done. The result of this was that in many cases the seller was more or less at the mercy of the buyer. In order to secure a more equitable arrangement in the measuring of timber intended for sale there have of late years been established along the main water-ways special institutions with permanent, sometimes sworn, measurers, who receive the timber on behalf of the buyer. These measurement institutions are called associations for measuring of timber. Their establishment is quite voluntary. They have a council of management, to which one half of the members are elected by the buyers and one half by the sellers and the buyers and sellers likewise bear half of the expenses each.

The Norwegian Mutual Forest-fire Insurance Company.

This company was founded in 1912 by the Norwegian forest-owners. The company undertakes insurance of forests against a premium of $1\frac{1}{4}$ o/oo of the insurance amount in cases where forest-fire regulations have been introduced. Where such regulations have not been established, the premium is $1\frac{3}{4}$ o/oo.

After an insurance period of 4 years a reduction of 20 % is made in the premium. After a further 4 years a reduction of $\frac{4}{10}$ o/oo is allowed in the form of a bonus. The most of the insurers have thus an effective premium of 60 øre per 1000 kroner of insurance amount. Only the forest ground and young wood are included in the insurance, but not timber trees.

In 1920 there was insured in the company about 65 % of the forest area of coniferous trees and to a total value of 259, 124,000 kroner.

Of other associations concerned with forestry may be mentioned: The Norwegian Timber Export Association (Norsk Trelasteksportforening), The Norwegian Pit-props Exporters' Association (Norsk Propsksportørers landsforening), The Norwegian Cellulose Association (Norsk Celluloseforening), The Norwegian Wood-pulp Association (Den norske Tremasseforening), The Norwegian Papermakers' Association (De norske Papirfabrikanters Forening) and Norway's Timber Union (Norges Trelastforbund).

The forest-owners have also their own bank: The Forest-owners' Bank (Skogeierbanken).

Legislation concerning Forestry.

Here may in the first place be mentioned the law of August 8th 1908 for the preservation of protective woods and against the destruction of forests, with the supplementary law of June 7th 1916. By virtue of these laws rules have been established by Royal Order in Council for the hewing of timber within the different rural districts, which rules generally contain, amongst other things, a prohibition against the cutting down of trees under a fixed minimum dimension, except where such

undersized trees are hindered in their growth, stunted, damaged or the like. The State allows one half of the expenses incurred in seeing that the law is properly observed. In those districts where the local authorities have not of their own initiative passed bye-laws the general regulations fixed by the supplementary law of the 7th June 1916 come into application.

The Act of the 10th February 1908 regarding the invalidity of certain contracts for felling of trees etc. forbids the establishment of such contracts for a longer period than 3 years from the date of the making of the contract.

The Act of July 14th 1893 regarding restrictions on the use of fire in woods and fields etc. with the amending act of 1921, lays down certain prohibitions against the use of fire in forests and enjoins upon the district authorities the enactment of so-called »forest-fire regulations«. According to these regulations every able-bodied man in the district may be called upon to take without remuneration part in the extinguishing of forest fires.

Amongst other laws may be mentioned, the Act of the 20th May 1899 regarding the hunting and capture of game, the Act of the 20th July 1918 regarding housing of men and horses engaged in forest-work and floatage of timber. The so-called »Mountain Law« of the 20th March 1920 gives to the local authorities in the highlands the right to regulate the rights of the parishes to fishing, hunting and pasturing in the common-lands belonging to the State, including also the common forest-lands, and the Act of the 20th August 1915 forbids the separation from the farm-holdings of the forest and mountain tracts necessary for the working of the farm.

The civil Veterinary Service.

This service is well and completely organised with a staff of well-trained officials. Hitherto the veterinary surgeons have obtained their education in Denmark, but there is now under construction a Norwegian Veterinary High School in Christiania.

The number of veterinary surgeons is 255. Of these 165 are county veterinary surgeons, whose salaries are paid partly by the State and partly by the county concerned.

The State Veterinary Institute in Christiania consists

of 3 sections, namely, the bacteriological or serum section, the pathological section and the veterinary-medicinal library. The Institute makes diagnosis of diseases (especially contagious diseases), carries out scientific experiments, produces veterinary sera, tuberculin and other diagnostic and therapeutic materials, examines pathological preparations submitted to it for investigation carries out chemical investigations, holds courses of instruction for veterinary surgeons etc. The Institute likewise acts in an advisory capacity towards the administration.

Many of the malignant contagious diseases of domestic animals, such, for example, as rinderpest, hydrophobia, glanders, foot-and-mouth disease, virulent pleuro-pneumonia in cattle, rot, scab and virulent foot-rot in sheep are non-existent in Norway. The introduction from abroad of contagious diseases amongst animals is sought to be prevented by means of strict import-regulations (or import-prohibition) and quarantine regulations. The health conditions amongst the live-stock are especially good (tuberculosis in cattle is comparatively rare). As regards the export of live-stock from this country certain regulations have been made prescribing an examination by a veterinary surgeon as to the health of the animals before they are despatched.

The combating of contagious diseases amongst animals proceeds according to a special law on that subject (The Domestic Animals Act).

Official control of meat and official slaughter-houses have been established according to a special law on that subject. Thus, municipal control of meat is at present in operation in 35 municipalities and public slaughter-houses have been established in several towns.

Re-distribution of intermixed Holdings.

In Norway, as in many other lands, the ground was from ancient times to a great extent held in common and the dwellings and other buildings grouped together in small villages.

We distinguish between two different kinds of tenure-in-common, namely:

1) **Joint-ownership**, that is to say, each individual holding has not its separate portion marked out with boundaries, but the common property is used either alternately or simultaneously by the different holders.

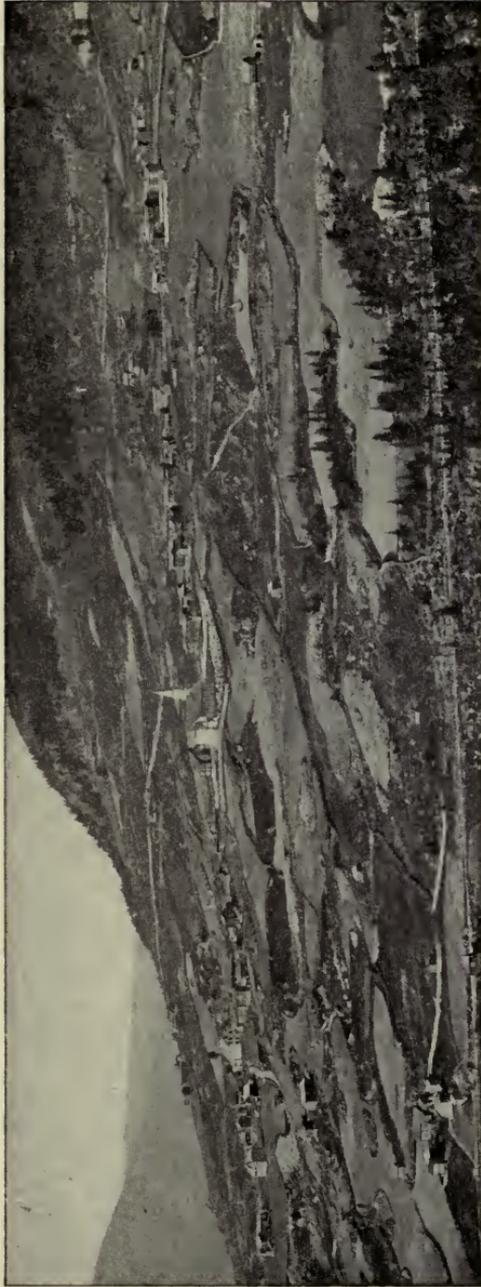


Cluster of houses before re-distribution.

2) Rundale system, that is to say, the various holders have their separate allotments, but these are so mixed up with each other that each holder cannot without excessive trouble maintain and preserve his plot of ground or utilise it in a serviceable manner.

Joint ownership was especially to be found in the case of pasture and forest and the rundale system in the case of cultivated and cultivatable land. Under the primitive conditions existing in former times the disadvantages connected with these forms of ownership were less keenly felt. Joint-ownership in forests led, however, — especially after timber became an article of commerce, — to uncontrolled depletion of the forests, while the rundale system (under which a single property might be split up into 100 or more small plots) prevented the separate owner from working the property in a rational manner and rendered him in a high degree dependent on his neighbours. According as the general development proceeded and the working became more intensive etc. the demand for rational conditions of ownership made itself more and more felt and in the beginning of the 19th century the first effective steps were taken by the authorities of the state in order to bring about a change in the state of affairs. The first law regarding re-distribution of intermixed holdings dates from 1821. The law at present in force was passed in 1882 with supplementary laws in 1917 and 1921. According to these laws every self-owning farmer can demand a re-distribution and, if the demand is acceded to, he can have the common property re-apportioned. The greater part of the costs of re-distribution is borne by the state.

The re-distribution is carried out by a Re-distribution Court (a spe-



Rundale system in a mountain district.

cial tribunal) consisting of a professionally qualified chairman and 2 nominated members (men with practical experience). This court decides legal disputes, carries out valuations of the land and decides upon the scheme of re-distribution, the arrangement of roads etc. As basis for the valuation and for the drawing up of the re-distribution scheme there is generally prepared a map of the ground. The technical work is performed by officials appointed to assist the chairman, which assistants, like the chairman of the courts, are trained in a special section of the High School of Agriculture.

In connection with the re-distribution of rundale holdings a removal of the houses must frequently be carried out in order that the build-



Neighbourhood after re-distribution.

ings may be conveniently situated for the working of the property. The Re-distribution Court can enjoin upon the owners the carrying out of such removals, and it has likewise to estimate the expenses connected therewith and to apportion same between the interested parties. The law contains provisions as to the amount of the expenses that can be charged upon each separate holding in proportion to its registered taxation value. If the expenses exceed the amount that can according to the law be imposed upon the parties, they can seek to have the whole or part of the excess-amount covered by the state. During the past few years the state treasury has granted about kr. 300,000 annually as a contribution towards the cost of removing buildings.

The maps are, generally speaking, drawn up tachymetrically and they are to be incorporated in the trigonometrical net-work of maps of the whole country. The intention is that they shall form part of an economic map-system for the whole land.

The chairmen of the courts and their assistants are appointed and paid by the state. Their number is at present 51 and 78 respectively,

distributed over the country with defined working-districts. An inspector is appointed to control the surveying and cartographical work.

The interested parties provide the remuneration to the 2 laymen who are members of the court and the costs of the necessary assistance in the work of surveying.

The total grant from the state towards the work of re-distribution has of late years amounted to about 1,500,000 kroner.

In addition to the re-distribution of the land actually held in common ownership the law also gives access, with the aid of the re-distribution courts and in a similar manner, to the abolishment of certain detrimental rights and easements and to the making of provisions for the well-ordered use of common properties which are not suitable for re-distribution etc.

Through the system of re-distribution the greater part of the common holdings which were formerly most complicated have now been replaced by conveniently rounded-off properties.

Legislation Concerning Agriculture and Forestry.

Amongst the various laws concerning agriculture may specially be mentioned:

The concession Laws.

By a number of laws enacted from 1906 onwards various restrictions have been imposed upon the free right of acquiring waterfalls, mines, forest, land and mountain properties, lime-pits, peat-bogs and certain other national assets.

Of these laws the Department of Agriculture has to see to the observance of the Acts concerning Forest Concessions, Mountain Concessions and Peat-bog Concessions. According to these laws foreigners and companies in which foreign capital is interested must have the permission of the King (Concession) in order to acquire the right of ownership or user in any of the above-mentioned kinds of property, irrespective of the extent of the property in question. Also Norwegian companies and Norwegian subjects and Norwegian local authorities (but not the local authority in whose district the property concerned is situated) require to a large extent a concession for the acquirement of the kinds of property above-named, especially when it is a question of properties exceeding a certain size or of persons who already hold property exceeding a certain size in the district concerned. The areas thus taken into account in granting the concessions (the concession-limits) vary somewhat for the different kinds of property and they likewise vary according as it is a question of persons resident in the district in which the property is situated or of persons

resident outside the district. For the last-named class of persons (that is: non-residents in the district) the limits are much lower than for persons of the first-named class (residents in the district). The individual districts are, furthermore, at liberty to get these limits reduced and the districts have availed themselves of this privilege to a very great extent, so that the concession-limits are now generally very low throughout the whole country. Thus it may be mentioned that the limit for forest-concessions in about one half of the districts in the country has been reduced to 10 hectares, as regards companies, non-residents and local authorities of other districts. Also for residents in the district the limit for forest-concessions has been reduced to a very small area, in some districts to 10 hectares. A somewhat similar state of affairs prevails also as regards land, for which the limits fixed by the law (4 hectares for non-residents and 15 to 30 hectares for residents) have been further reduced in a number of districts. The same applies also as regards the limits for mountain-concessions, which by the law have been fixed at 100 hectares. In the case of all these areas it is to be remarked that it is not only the extent of the property to be acquired that is taken into account, but also what the acquirer and his immediate relatives already possess in the district, so that the property acquired becomes subject to concession when it, together with what the acquirer and his immediate relatives already own in the district, exceeds the limit applying to the district.

Transfers within the circle of immediate relatives are exempt from the obligation of obtaining concession, irrespective of the extent of the property.

Applications for concession must first be submitted to the local authorities for their expression of opinion as to whether the application ought to be granted or not, and as to whether, if granted, there ought to be attached to the concession special conditions with a view to guarding the public interests. Thereupon the application is sent in to the Department, which submits it to the King for decision. For the granting of the concession such conditions may be laid down as may be found requisite in the public interests. Thus, in the case of concessions for the acquirement of land-property it is usual to lay down the condition that the acquirer shall take up permanent residence on the property for a period of at least 5 years and work it in a proper manner as a farm and that he shall treat in a rational manner the forest attached to the property. Moreover, there are often, according to the nature of the individual cases, laid down several other conditions for acquirement of property.

If, in view of the information supplied and of the opinion expressed by the local authorities, the King finds that it is contrary to the public interests to allow the applicant to acquire the property, the latter's application for concession will be rejected. The applicant will then be allowed a certain time to arrange the matter of acquirement, either by

transferring the property to some person who can obtain the concession or by cancelling the transaction. If the applicant fails to do this before the lapse of the time allowed, the property will be sold by the public authorities to some one who can obtain the concession.

As a result of the comparatively low concession-limits, the number of concession cases that come before the Department for consideration is very large, on an average between 2500 and 3000 applications per year.

The above-mentioned Concession Laws contain provisions giving to the local authorities in whose district the property subject to concession is situated the right of pre-emption of that property, that is to say, the right to take over the property on the terms of the contract of purchase. The object in giving the local authorities this right of pre-emption is to enable them in this way to acquire properties which it may be deemed expedient for them to acquire, either in order to retain same in their own hands or to transfer them to people in the district who are in want of land, forest or other possessions. This right of pre-emption has to a large extent been availed of by the local authorities, especially in case of forest and land-properties. Several of the local bodies have in this manner acquired large stretches of forest, which they work for the benefit of the district, and these communal acquisitions, in addition to their great public utility, have almost without exception proved to be excellent business undertakings from a purely economic point of view. The local authorities have likewise to a large extent exercised the right of pre-emption to large land-properties, which they have then divided up into small-holdings and allotted same to people in the districts who were in want of land. In this manner a large number of self-owned holdings have been created throughout the country.

In the case of large properties the State is entitled to exercise the right of pre-emption to the property, if the local authority concerned does not desire to avail of the pre-emption rights.

Amongst other laws concerning agriculture may be mentioned: The Act of July 14th 1894 (cf. the Acts of May 26th 1899 and May 14th 1918) regarding contagious diseases of live-stock, which gives authority for taking the necessary measures to prevent the spread of such diseases. Amongst other things, the slaughtering of the animals may be prescribed and prohibition issued against the importation of live-stock, while other prescriptions and regulations may be established in order to prevent infection.

The Act of July 21st 1916 concerning the combating of noxious insects and plant-diseases, which authorises the King to prescribe the measures necessary for combating and preventing the diffusion within the country of such insects and diseases. Thus, amongst other things, there can be issued a prohibition against the import of plants, bushes or trees, or parts thereof, herein also included berries, roots, potatoes, corn and other seeds.

There is further an act, dated July 4th 1919, imposing restrictions

on the turning out of stallions, bulls, buck-goats and rams to graze upon the common pastures, and an act of August 20th 1915 regarding liability for injury to cattle by dogs.

Finally may be mentioned the Act of May 8th 1913 regarding the marking and colouring of foreign seeds.

Concerning the special forest laws see page 35.

Co-operation, Credit System and Insurance System.

Co-operation in its various forms has of late years made considerable progress. A special and comparatively old form of co-operation for selling purposes we have in the creameries and cheese-factories, of which there are about 500 in existence. These are formed by combination of farmers on an entirely co-operative basis, and they have been of very great importance as an economic factor in agriculture.

Of other co-operative undertakings for selling purposes may be mentioned the joint slaughterhouses, the co-operative societies for the sale of eggs and those for the sale of timber.

For joint purchase of artificial manure, concentrated cattle-food, machines and other articles for use in agriculture there are in operation throughout the country districts 6 co-operative purchasing societies with their subordinate branches. There are in existence 2250 of such subordinate purchasing societies with a total membership of about 75,000. The total turn-over in 1920 was about 65 million kroner.

Credit System.

The arrangements for the granting of loans are, relatively speaking, well organised. It is comparatively easy for the farmers to raise the loans necessary for their operations. Mortgage loans are granted by »Kongeriget Norges Hypothekbank« (The Kingdom of Norway's Mortgage Bank) and by »Den norske Stats smaabruk og boligbank« (The Norwegian State Bank for Smallholders and Dwellings), both of which are state institutions, as well as by the various public funds. There has, besides, been lately established a co-operative bank with the same object, namely: »Norges kreditforening for land og skogbruk« The Norwegian Credit Association for Land and Forestry).

A large proportion of the credit requirements of agriculture is satisfied by the savings-banks, which in Norway have a wider sphere of action than savings-bank and similar institutions abroad. Our savings-banks have most resemblance to the Swedish »folkbanker« (People's Banks). Like the latter they provide for several kinds of activity. They

grant mortgage loans both against direct mortgage-deeds and against mortgage-documents deposited as security. The saving-banks are self-owning institutions, which give no dividend to private persons, but either add the annual profits to capital or apply a portion of the surplus to purposes of public utility. The operations of the savings-banks are hedged around by legislative prescriptions and are subjected to official control, exercised by a Director of Savings-banks and a number of inspectors. The number of savings-banks is at present 555, with a total disposable capital of somewhat over 2 milliard kroner.

Insurance System.

Buildings of value throughout the whole country are, almost without exception, insured against damage by fire in the great public insurance companies. The largest of these is »Norges brandkasse« (The Norwegian Fire Insurance Fund). There are, besides, local co-operative insurance societies in operation around in the country districts, in addition to a number of private insurance companies. The buildings in the rural districts are insured for a total amount of about 4.5 milliard kroner.

Insurance against forestfires see page 35.

Live-stock insurance has of late years attracted increasing interest, but owing to the good conditions of health amongst the live-stock there has not hitherto been any very great demand for a general system of insurance in this field.

EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

In 1921 Norway possessed the following specialised schools for Agriculture, Horticulture, Dairying, Forestry and Domestic Science:

- A. High Schools, mainly for the training of teachers and officials and for scientific research:

The High School of Agriculture for Norway. (Norges Landbruks-høiskole) State Training School for Teachers and Instructors to Smallholders. State Training School for Female Teachers in Housewifery.

- B. Schools which are specially intended for training in practical requirements:

- 33 Agricultural Schools,
- 6 Schools for Smallholders,
- 9 Horticultural Schools,
- 5 Schools of Dairying,
- 10 Schools of Forestry,
- 68 Schools of Housewifery.

Total 131 schools.

All these schools are administered by the Department of Agriculture, whereas the school-system of the country otherwise comes under the Church and Education Department.

High schools.

The High School of Agriculture for Norway. This comprises 5 sections:

- The Agricultural Section,
- The Forestry Section,
- The Horticultural Section,
- The Dairying Section.

The Section for Re-distribution of intermixed Holdings.

In all these sections the period of study is 3 years. In the first year the course of instruction is common for all 5 sections and after the expiration of that year the first part of the examination is taken, embracing chiefly natural science subjects.

In the 2nd and 3rd years the courses of study are separate for each section, although for some sections there may be common instruction in some subjects.

The High School has the following staff of teachers and officials:

- 20 professors, of whom one acts as Principal,
- 7 permanent lecturers,
- 3 interchangeable lectureships,
- 18 assistant teachers,
- 6 scholarship-holders,

about 20 different other officials.

Furthermore, in connection with the High School's farm there are employed several different officials and permanent labourers.

The High School has an estate comprising about 150 hectares of cultivated land and some forest-land, which is a fairly large amount as things go in Norway.

About 80 students enter the High School every year, so that the total number of students, when the new arrangement has been completed, will be from 200 to 250.

In order to be admitted to the High School the applicants must have



The High School of Agriculture for Norway. General view. To the left the school-building. In the middle the out-houses and to the right one of the professorial residences

had 2 years' practical work, have gone through an agricultural school (see hereinafter 53) and have passed either the University matriculation examination or else an examination in 2 foreign languages, mathematics, Norwegian etc. For those who have gone through an agricultural school, but are deficient in general education, special preparatory courses of 1 year have been arranged to prepare them for this examination. Hitherto only a comparatively small number of the students have had the full matriculation examination.

Generally speaking, the course of education will take the following time:

Continuation school	½ year
Practical work	2 years
Agricultural school	1½ »
Preparatory course	1 year
High School	3 years
	8 years.
Total	

For horticulturists 3 years' practical work are required, so that for these the period of education will be 9 years in all.

At the High School the following practical and scientific experimental work is carried out:

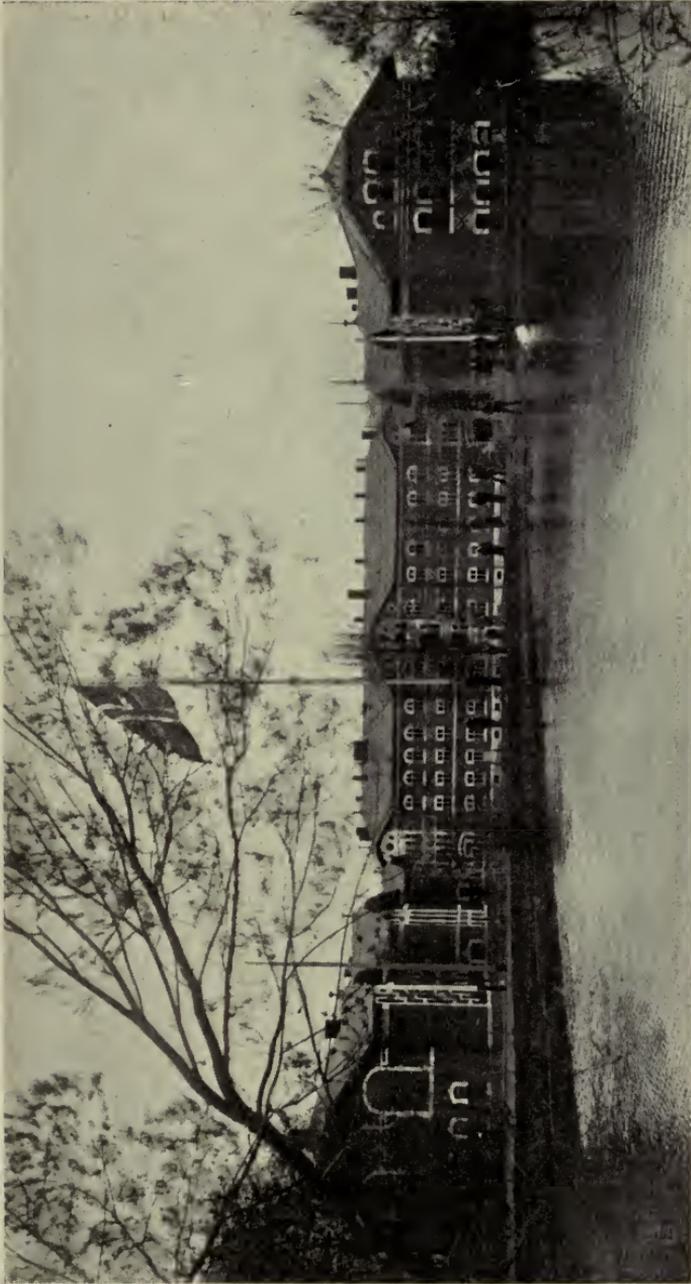
1. Experiments in Cultivation of Plants,
2. Experiments in the Treatment and Investigation of Grain,
3. Experiments in the Cultivation of the Soil,
4. Experiments with regard to Weeds,
5. Experiments with regard to Foods and Feeding,
6. Experiments in the breeding of Young-stock,
7. Tests with Machines,
8. Experiments in Horticulture,
9. Investigation of the Soil,
10. Experiments in Forestry.

The State Training School for Teachers to Smallholders.

This school was established in 1914 and its object is to train teachers for the schools and instructors in the working of small holdings, as well as to carry out experiments in that sphere. At first the school had a 1 year's course of instruction, but this has now been extended to 2 years.

The school has the following staff of teachers and officials:

- 1 principal,
- 2 head-teachers,
- 3 teachers,



The High School, The boarding-houses for students.



The State Training School for Teachers to Smallholders.

- 2 assistant teachers,
- 2 scholarship-holders,
- 2 herdsmen or herdswomen.

Under the new plan 20 pupils shall be admitted every year, so that there will thus be 40 pupils in the school. Moreover, short courses of instruction are given in different branches of small-holding operations.

The school has a small estate of about 12 hectares. It has a small stock of the larger domestic animals. On the other hand, a fairly large number of the smaller domestic animals is kept.

The instruction consists partly of lectures and partly of practical work on the farm and with the small and large domestic animals, as well as training in handicrafts. For this latter purpose the school has a well-equipped smithy and carpenter's shop, each with room for 8 to 10 pupils at a time.

In order to be admitted to the school it is required that the applicant shall have gone through an agricultural school and that he shall have some general education. A knowledge of foreign languages is not demanded.

The period of education for this school will be:

Continuation school	½ year,
Practical work	2 years,
Agricultural school	1½ »
Training school	2 »

Total 6 years.

The main reason for its having been found necessary to establish a separate training school for teachers and instructors in these special branches of agriculture lies in the fact that the holdings in this country are for the most part so small that they cannot support a family when worked in the usual way of farming. On the other hand, by utilising the many small sources of income that are available on a small farm the yield can be increased so much that it will be sufficient for a frugal family. Of the smaller domestic animals the school has paid special attention to swine, goats, sheep, poultry and bees, but rabbits, geese, ducks and turkeys are also kept. Moreover, a good deal of gardening is carried on at the school, side by side with the farming work proper.

On account of the special aims of the school the system of instruction follows a different plan than in the High School of Agriculture. Whilst in the latter the instruction is exclusively theoretical, practical training in farm-work takes up a comparatively extensive place in the curriculum of this Training School.

The experimental work at this school is still somewhat new and immature, but it is intended to develop this work by degrees as circumstances allow. It is likewise intended gradually to establish a considerable activity in the holding of short courses of instruction.

The State Training School for Female Teachers in Domestic Science.

The object of this school is to train teachers for the schools of housewifery and for the teaching of cookery in the elementary schools.

The school comprises 3 sections:

- A. Training School for teachers of Domestic Science 2 years' course.
- B. Do Do for teachers in elementary school cookery classes 1 —»—
- C. Housewifery School, the pupils of which shall at the same time form a practice school for Section A ½ —»—

In order to be admitted to Section A it is required that the applicant shall have gone through a lower school of Domestic Science, similar to Section C, and moreover an examination in general subjects must be passed.

In Section B the complete examination for teachers is required.

» » C no special previous training is demanded, except that the applicant must have had at least 1 year's practice in household work and she must have a good general school education.

The period of education for Section A will be:



The State Training School for Female Teachers in Domestic Science.

Continuation School (2 half-years)	1	year,
Practical work	1	»
School of Domestic Science	½	»
Training School for teachers in Domestic Science	2	years
		<hr/>
Total	4½	years

The period of education for Section B will be:

Continuation School	½	year,
Training School for teachers in elementary schools	3	years,
Training School for teachers in Domestic Science	1	year.
		<hr/>
Total	4½	years.

The school has the following staff of teachers and officials:

- 1 lady-principal,
 - 6 teachers,
 - 3 assistant teachers,
 - 2 scholarship-holders,
- as well as a number of other officials.

Lower Schools.

Lower Agricultural Schools and Smallholders' Schools.

The most of these schools are owned and carried on by the County Councils. A few schools are owned and carried on by the District Councils or by associations, and a couple of schools are private schools with a public grant.

The state contributes 3-fourths of the outlay for teachers' salaries, scholarships to pupils, fuel, light and cleaning, as well as for examination expenses, office expenses, teaching materials, free doctor, excursions etc.

The County Councils must provide the houses and, if required, farmland. The latter is worked for the account of the county.

The most of these schools are boarding-schools and the victualling is at the charge of the counties. For victualling there can at the present day be allowed up to 60 kroner a month per pupil and for fuel, light and cleaning up to 75 kroner a month per pupil per winter half-year. This, however, is arranged in such a way that the better-situated pupils pay almost in full for their food, whilst those who are not so well off can obtain it altogether free of charge. As the outlay for food at present comes to about 100 kroner a month, the deficiency is supplied by means of a contribution from the pupils.

The Agricultural Schools.

Of these we have altogether 33. The length of the courses varies from 1½ years down to 5 months.

There are at present in existence:

- 15 agricultural schools with 18 months course.
- 1 agricultural school with 12 months theoretical course combined with apprentice-service.
- 4 agricultural schools with 12 months course.
- 3 agricultural schools with 9 months course.
- 10 agricultural schools with about 6 months course.

a. Schools with 18 months courses.

The schools which 18 months courses have mainly theoretical instruction during the 2 winter half-years and mainly practical teaching in the summer half-year. The courses begin in October and end in April. The pupil receives the practical instruction partly on the farm attached to the school and partly on private farms. The average number of hours employed is about as follows:



One of the newest lower agricultural schools.

Theoretical Instruction.

Main subjects	650	hours	
Natural science subjects	350	»	
General subjects	200	»	
Exercises (drawing etc.)	150	»	
	<hr/>		total 1350 hours

Practical Instruction.

Work on the farm	1350	hours	
Practice of handicrafts	50	»	total 1400 hours
	<hr/>		
Total			2750 hours

To this is to be added the pupils home-work in preparation of lessons, written exercises etc.

All these 18-monthly schools have their own farms. The size of these farms is in most cases between 20 and 80 hectares. They have likewise a boarding-house for the pupils, the food being supplied at the school's expense, schoolrooms and residences for teachers. The total value of the buildings of such a school lies as a rule between kr. 300,000 and kr. 1,000,000 calculated according to the present-day value.

That part of the yearly budget which is borne by the county and the state together amounts in the case of the large schools to from about Kr. 70,000 to Kr. 130,000 for each school. Furthermore, the county bears the costs of buildings and eventual deficits on victualling etc.

The number of pupils in these large schools varies between 44 and 120. The number of teachers is between 5 and 10. The largest and best equipped of these schools have a staff of:

1 principal,
3 teachers in agriculture,
1 teacher in horticulture,
1 teacher in forestry,
1 farm-steward,
1 dairy,foreman,
1 teacher of smithing,
1 teacher of carpentry.

b. Winter School of Agriculture in Christiania.

This is the only agricultural school situated in a town. It has theoretical instruction during 2 winters in combination with an apprentice-course with private farm-owners lasting one year and a half. The school has about 100 pupils in the theoretical course. It is a private school with a grant from the state.

Schools with 1-year courses.

These are all situated in the west or north of Norway, where the conditions for farming are narrower and the farms smaller. The schools have farms attached and the pupils take part in the manual labour. The farm being as a rule small, in proportion to the number of pupils, there is also some theoretical instruction in summer. The theoretical instruction therefore covers nearly the same ground as in the schools with 1½ year courses, while the practical instruction is considerably less.

Schools with 9 months courses.

These begin in September and end in June. They are all situated in the mountain districts and the school-time is arranged thus out of regard to the difficult work of harvesting the hay on the highland meadows in these districts. The farmer likes to have his sons at home at that time.

The pupils take some little part in the work on the school farm (which is of small extent) in the autumn and spring. Otherwise the instruction is mainly theoretical.

Schools with about 6 months courses.

These are also for the most part to be found in the mountain districts and sometime in the fishing districts on the coast. They are attended especially by pupils from the smaller farms, where a longer period of training is considered too expensive for their narrow circumstances.

The instruction is mainly theoretical and the schools as a rule have no farm attached. Some of these schools are movable schools. They remain from 1 to 5 years in each district, after which they are removed to another district.



School for Smallholders.

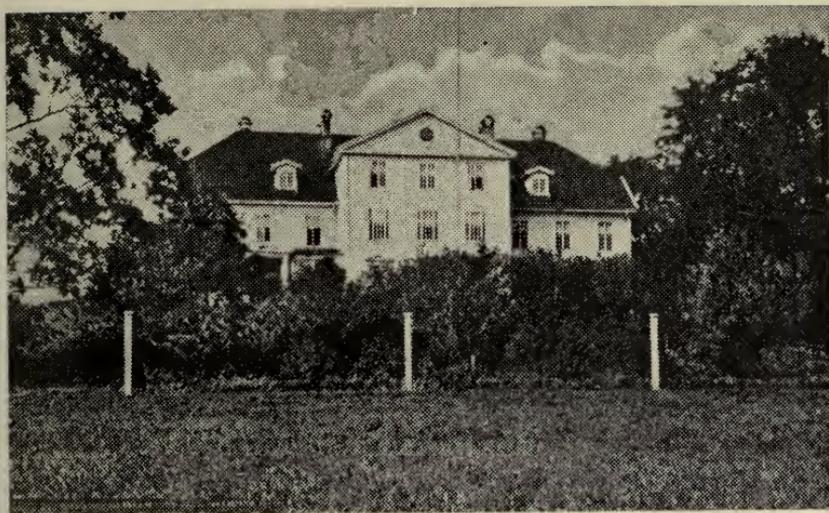
Schools for Smallholders.

Whereas the Agricultural Schools are of old date, seeing that the first agricultural school in the country was established in 1825, the schools for smallholders have all been established since 1915.

Their object is to teach the pupils to work a small farm (smallholding) of from 1 to 5 hectares, so that a family can support itself thereon. They therefore pay most attention to the smaller domestic animals: pigs, sheep, goats, poultry, bees etc. in combination with gardening and intensive working of the land otherwise. There are at present 6 such schools in activity. Two of these schools have small farms attached and are well equipped with buildings and teaching materials. 2 are connected with the continuation schools (folkehøiskoler) and 1 is a movable school. 2 courses of 3 months are held every winter.

Finally, there has been established 1 year ago a private smallholder school for women. This school has likewise a public grant. It has a 9-months practical and theoretical course and is conducted by a lady-principal.

The aim of the agricultural and smallholder schools is first and foremost to provide the future farmers with theoretical knowledge and practical ability in farming. Besides this, the agricultural schools with complete courses serve as preparatory schools for the High School of Agriculture and for the Training School for Teachers to Smallholders.



House-wifery School.

Housewifery Schools.

Of these we have

38 public housewifery schools	in the country districts,
14 —>— —>—	in the towns,
16 private —>—	mostly in the towns.

Total 68 housewifery schools.

The public housewifery schools in the country districts are owned and carried on by the County Councils. Some of them are entirely independent schools, some are combined with the agricultural schools and some with the continuation schools. Most of them are full boarding-schools and the victualling is at the expense of the counties.

The public housewifery schools in the towns are owned by the town-council. They are as a rule not boarding-schools but the pupils eat one or two meals in the school and live at home.

All public housewifery schools have a grant of three-fourths from the state under somewhat the same regulations as the agricultural schools.

The private housewifery schools have a grant from the state under different regulations from those applying to the public schools, and the grants do not constitute so large a part of the expenses as in the case of the public schools.

The most of the housewifery schools have courses of about 5 months, but of late the tendency has been to make the courses longer (10 months). Some of the schools in the country districts have, however, longer courses, up to 1 year, while some have shorter courses, down to 3 months.



Horticultural School.

The schools in the country districts have as a rule instruction in cookery and housekeeping, needlework, gardening, work in the cowshed and dairy, as well as in hygiene and the care of children.

The schools in the towns have as a rule instruction only in cookery and housekeeping, together with hygiene and the care of children.

Most of the housewifery schools attach most importance to the practical training, the theoretical instruction as a rule embracing only from 2 to 3 hours daily.

The housewifery schools have from 12 to 40 pupils each. The most of the combined schools hold only one course in the year, namely, during the time when there is most room in the buildings.

The lower Horticultural Schools.

Of these schools we have:

1 school in Christiania with a theoretical course extending over 2 winters and apprentice service in the intervening summer. This school has 3 sections: 1 for hot-house and green-house gardening, 1 for landscape gardening and 1 for ordinary outdoor gardening.

4 schools with 1½ years practical and theoretical course in all kinds of horticulture. The instruction in these schools, however, corresponds in the main to the ordinary outdoor gardening section at the school in Christiania.

2 schools with 1 year's course in general horticulture.

2 schools with 8 months course in general horticulture.

The first 5 of these schools are specially designed for such pupils

as propose to take up horticulture or market-gardening as their chief means of livelihood or for such as intend to enter the horticultural section of The High School of Agriculture.

The last 4 are mainly intended for such as wish to pursue gardening as a subsidiary occupation side by side with farming.

4 of the schools are state schools,

1 is a county school,

4 are private schools.

The lower Schools of Forestry.

These are carried on upon essentially the same system as the agricultural schools.

There are:

5 State schools with 1 year's course,

3 county schools with 1 year's course.

2 county schools with 1½ year's course.

These last 2 are combined with agricultural schools.

The instruction is practical and theoretical, the winter season being mainly applied to theoretical instruction and the summer to outdoor practice. To each school there is assigned 1 or more of the state forests, and the principal of the school is then likewise manager of these forests.

Two of the forestry schools are combined with agricultural schools and have their budget in common with the latter.

The lower Schools of Dairying.

These are all State schools and have the following courses:

1 school with 1 year's theoretical course for men and women in combination with apprentice service in creameries which are approved of as places for training.

4 schools with from 1 to 1¼ year's practical and theoretical courses for the training of female dairy-hands.

The first-named of these schools is stationed in a small town. The other 4 are quartered in creameries, and the manager of the creamery is then at the same time the principal of the school. For admission it is required that the applicants shall have at least one year's practice in a creamery.

Short Courses.

In addition to the above-mentioned permanent schools there are held a number of short courses supported by public grants and lasting from a few days up to 2 or 3 months.

New-cultivation and Colonisation.

The work of new-cultivation, which in the years immediately preceding the war had already made considerable progress, has aroused



Smallholders' dwellings.

great interest during the war, partly on account of the difficult situation as regards food supplies which was created by the war and partly owing to the social disturbance that occurred during and after the war. There is a lively interest amongst the leading men of the country for the question of attaching a larger number of persons than before to the work of cultivating the land and for the securing of more livable conditions for the cultivator of the soil.

During the war a separate office was established in the Department of Agriculture with the object of working for an extraordinary increase in agricultural production, especially of products which could directly serve as food for the nation, such as corn, potatoes and vegetables. In the course of 1917—18 (mainly in the latter year) the area under corn potatoes etc. (See page 9) was increased by one-third, chiefly through the ploughing up of artificial meadow.

At the same time an energetic campaign was started on the part of the authorities of the State for an increase in new-cultivation and for the colonisation after the war of the comparatively extensive uncultivated waste-lands in the Kingdom.

By a resolution of Parliament of the 2nd November 1920 new regulations were adopted for the giving of State grants, whereby the new-cultivators and colonists are ensured considerable support from the public funds. In this connection there have by the Act of November



Colonist homes.

19th 1920 been established in every district the so-called »Land Committees«, i.e., locally elected committees of 3 members, which are to have charge of the work of new-cultivation in the district.

The Land Committee is elected by the District Council after the farmers' unions and smallholders' unions within the district have been requested to suggest members for election to the committee. The Land Committee shall employ one or, if necessary, several men to plan and control the execution of Land-cultivation operations in the district. The District Council is to decide whether the members of the committee are to receive remuneration for their work and, if so, the amount of the remuneration. The expenses of the committee's work are paid by the local authority against refundment of one half of the amount by the State.

The Land Committees deal as the first instance with all applications for grants or loans for land-cultivation and colonisation, but also other measures for promoting the better utilisation and working of the land come within the sphere of activity of these committees, such as, for example, arrangements for the better collection and treatment of animal manure, for the better utilisation of the grazing-runs, for the combating of weeds etc.

From the Land Committee the matters go to the County Agricultural Societies, which, as already stated, are the immediate superiors of the committees. The agricultural societies summarily dispose of some of the

applications and send in a quarterly statement hereon to the Department of Agriculture (Production Office). Other applications are forwarded to the Department for decision after the society has expressed its opinion thereon.

According to the new regulations of the 20th November 1920 the State supports land-cultivation in the following ways:

1. By cheap loans from the Land-cultivation Fund (Jorddyrkningsfondet).
2. By contributions for the reduction of interest on loans from Savings Banks and from »Norges Kreditforening for Land- og Skogbruk» (Norwegian Credit Society for Agriculture and Forestry).
3. By direct grants.

From the Land-cultivation Fund loans are granted for cultivation operations that have been planned, but not yet carried out. The loans are not given, as a rule, in larger amounts than Kr. 5000 and are not granted to persons assessed for taxation on a larger capital than Kr. 50,000. The loan is exempt from repayment of capital for the first 5 years, and the repayment thereafter takes place during the following 15 years by means of equal annual instalments. The rate of interest is $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent per annum. Loans can be made up to the amount at which the cultivation work is estimated, but not exceeding Kr. 5000 per hectare.

For reduction of interest on loans obtained for purposes of land-cultivation from savings banks or from The Norwegian Credit Society for Agriculture and Forestry the State makes a contribution corresponding to the difference between the rate of interest prevailing from time to time for first-mortgage loans from public funds and the rate at which loans from the Land-cultivation Fund can be obtained. This difference in rate of interest at present amounts to about 3 per cent. Otherwise the same rules apply for these loans as for loans from the Land-cultivation Fund, except that the limit for capital possessed by applicants for loans is in this case raised to Kr. 100,000.

For cultivation work that has been planned but not executed the State makes a direct contribution of 1-4th of the cost of the work, but not over Kr. 1250 per hectare. To this may be added a contribution from the district. The grant is made only to persons who are not assessed for a larger capital than Kr. 25,000 or for a larger income than Kr. 4,000.

Colonisation (the creation of new holdings) will, according to the new regulations, be supported by the State by means of grants to colonisation societies, amounting in general to 3 times the sum the societies have been able to raise by other means, not including any contribution from the State. In special cases the grant from the State may exceed this limit.

The local authorities can also act as colonisation societies.

The colonisation generally proceeds in such a manner that the societies or companies buy up stretches of uncultivated land and construct the roads and main-drainage-trenches that are necessary in

order that the building of houses and the actual work of cultivation may be commenced.

The ground is divided up into holdings of such size as may be found suitable for each separate district and is transferred to the settlers either by sale or on lease. The settler must have a capital of between Kr. 1,500 as the minimum and Kr. 15,000 as the maximum. Every holding ought as a rule to be so large that a horse can be kept.

The settlers themselves as a rule carry out the work of breaking up the land for cultivation and the erection of buildings on the holdings.

For loans obtained from The Norwegian Smallholders and Dwellings Bank (Den norske smaabruk og boligbank) or from The Norwegian Credit Society for Agriculture and Forestry (Norges Kreditforening for Land- og Skogbruk) for the acquirement of the holding and for the erection of buildings the State for the present pays the interest for the first 5 years after the taking up of the loan.

For the erection of out-houses the State makes a grant of up to one third of the cost of the buildings. The State grant cannot, however, exceed Kr. 1,000 per hectare of land suitable for cultivation, and the total grant to one holding cannot be more than Kr. 5,000.

The minimum size of the holdings to which a grant is made for the erection of buildings shall as a rule be 2 hectares.

For the work of bringing the land into cultivation the settler receives a loan or grant according to the rules applying for the giving of loans and grants.

As direct State contribution to the work of land-cultivation and to colonisation for the financial year 1920—21 there has been voted on the extraordinary budget Kr. 5,000,000, and, in addition, Kr. 1,400,000 on the ordinary budget.

For the financial year 1921—22 there has been voted Kr. 2,700,000 as direct contribution towards land-cultivation and towards the reduction of interest on loans for land-cultivation purposes, as well as Kr. 1,300,000 for colonisation.

Of the sum voted for colonisation purposes Kr. 1,000,000 is to be placed at the disposal of the colonisation society «New Land» (Ny Jord).

This latter society was founded in 1908 by various organisations in connection with agriculture, commerce, handicrafts and industry. It was originally called »The Society for the Restriction of Emigration«, and its object was to work against excessive emigration to foreign countries as well as to afford guidance to emigrants who might wish to return home. But in addition to this work the society from the very beginning also devoted itself to practical tasks with the object of securing for the greatest possible number of our young people room to live and better working conditions within the limits of their own country. Its activities have gone more and more in this direction, so that the work of colonisation has now become the chief task of the society.

The society operates partly with its own resources and partly with the help of grants from the State. The contribution from the State has,

however, of late years formed the essential part of the means for its operations. This will be the case in a still higher degree now that the largely increased State grant towards colonisation is for the most part to be expended through the agency of »New Land«. In consideration of this, the society has also entered into closer relations with the Department of Agriculture, which appoints one member of the society's committee and otherwise exercises control over its activities.

In addition to »New Land« there are also some minor local societies working with the problem of land-cultivation and colonisation, partly with their own resources and partly with the help of grants from the State.

Budget.

For the financial year from 1st July 1921 to 30th June 1922 the following budget has been granted concerning the work for the promotion of agriculture, forestry, the civil veterinary service and the re-distribution service.

Agriculture.

- A. For measures to be carried out entirely for the account of the state, Kr. 9 446,094.00, of which sum Kr. 2,700,000.00 is direct contribution towards cultivation of land and Kr. 1,300,000.00 for colonisation.
- B. For measures of which three-fourths of the expenses are met by the State and one-fourth by the district concerned, Kr. 2,541,000.00, of which sum Kr. 2,391,000.00 is for educational purposes (County agricultural schools, smallholders' schools and housewifery schools etc.).
- C. For measures of which $\frac{1}{2}$ of the expenses are met by the State and $\frac{1}{2}$ by the district concerned, Kr. 2,346,700.00, of which Kr. 1,310,000.00 is to the County agricultural societies.

As state contribution towards well-sinking and regulation of water in the interests of agriculture the sum of Kr. 100,000.00 has been proposed.

Concerning The High School of Agriculture for Norway a net outlay of Kr. 1,166,657.00 has been granted.

Forestry Service.

Expenditures: Kr. 10,821,100.00.

Income: Kr. 7,823,292.00.

In these figures are included the expenditures and incomes concerning all forests administrated by the director of forestry as well as contributions to the state schools of forestry, to the county schools and to the Norwegian Forestry Society.

For the expenses of the Civil Veterinary Service there has been voted Kr. 885,105.00 and for the expenses of Restribution kr. 1,649,400.00.

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