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Foreword

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Department of Agriculture

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FOREWORD

By A. L. MCKENZIE CLARK, L.V.Sc., DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE

THE soil is a nation's heritage—a rich legacy from past generations of pioneers who laboured and endured hardships in order that the land should produce for the nourishment and clothing of mankind.

We must use this legacy to the fullest extent without exploiting it. We must, by sound farming methods, ensure that the soil not only provides for the needs of our people today but is left in a condition which will enable it to yield still more generously for generations yet unborn.

Today the world is short of food, for many countries have populations whose needs cannot be met by the areas of arable land within their borders. Here in Australia, where our land is sufficient to provide for a much greater population than we yet possess, we can help to narrow the gap that yawns between world food production and world needs.

The Department of Agriculture is organised to provide the farming community with a technical service designed to maintain and increase food production. New methods of land development have been studied on existing properties and investigations are being carried out to establish sound farming methods on formerly unproductive soils.



THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE

Outstanding advances have already been made—advances which could not have been achieved without the co-operation of many farmers. Such men have been appreciative of the services rendered by scientific research into their problems and have implemented, by their practical experience, the lessons learnt through research.

Only when such co-operation is forthcoming from all farmers will the maximum production target be reached. The universal application of proved sound farm-

ing practices will bring increased yields per acre and per animal. This will enable us to lift food production in this State, and Australia as a whole, to meet the demands of our increasing population and maintain surpluses for export to other lands.

We cannot disregard the call for greater food production. The Department of Agriculture, through its technical officers is ever ready to point the way to an increase in output that will ensure individual and national economic stability. The Department is here to serve YOU as it has served others. Take full advantage of the help and advice which is available and by your own personal efforts assist your fellow-producers to lift the State's average of rural production.

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