

supplied to the farmers at 2% above cost price. Under the same act freightage and transport may, during 1929 to 1931, be paid out of the treasury.

Before the Improvement of Estates Act came into force, The *Skeið* and *Flói irrigation works*, affecting some 18 000 hectares of land, were commenced, respectively in 1917 and 1922, the water being supplied from the rivers Thjórsá and Hvítá. The first of these undertakings reached its completion in 1922 and cost 430 000 krónur; the expenses of the latter, which is still in course of construction, are estimated at 1 000 000 krónur. One-fourth of the total outlay is defrayed by the State.

The management and supervision of all matters relative to the promotion of agriculture in general, in so far as it is dependent on pecuniary support from the State, are entrusted to *The Agricultural Society of Iceland (Búnaðarfélag Íslands)*, under the control of the Minister of Industrial Affairs. This Society was formed in 1899; in 1929 it had a membership of 2600, besides 94 local agricultural associations. The object of the society is the promotion of agriculture and allied industries, by research and experimental work, money grants, guidance etc. The society also deals with all matters connected with the reclamation of sandy wastes. The greater part of the means at its disposal consists of annual State grants which, though at first no more than 7000 krónur, had in 1910 risen to 54 000 krónur, and are in the budget for 1930 fixed at 240 000 krónur.

The highest authority in all affairs of the society is vested in the Agricultural Council (*Búnaðarthing*) meeting annually in Reykjavík, and consisting of twelve representatives, seven of whom are elected by the Unions of Agricultural Associations (*Búnaðarsambönd*), and four by the Agricultural Society of Iceland, at its general meeting. The twelfth seat is alternately filled by the directors of the agricultural schools. The board of directors of the society is composed of three members, one of whom is chosen by the agricultural council, and two by the Ministry of Industrial Affairs. The board appoints the managing director of the society, who is called Director of Agricultural Affairs (*Búnaðarmálastjóri*). At present his duties are shared between two functionaries. The society publishes an agricultural periodical and grants financial support to a variety of undertakings relative to farming. The following seven advisers are employed in the service of the Agricultural Society of Iceland, namely: two advisers in live-stock rearing; two for