Farmer M.L.A. Becomes Minister for Agriculture

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A farmer and the son of a farmer, the recently-appointed Minister for Agriculture, the Hon. Crawford David Nalder, brings to his new post a wealth of experience gained in a lifetime of practical farming and stockbreeding; a knowledge of Parliamentary procedure dating back some 12 years and an understanding of rural matters gained as a member of the executive of farmers’ organisations and as a member of the Wagin Road Board and the Wagin Agricultural Society.

Son of the late Mr. H. A. Nalder, a prominent breeder and exhibitor of Clydesdale horses in the pre-tractor era, the new Minister was born in Katanning in 1910 and remained on the home farm near Wagin until 1934 when he took over a 2,274-acre property, ten miles from Wagin on the Dongolocking Road. He maintains a Murray blood Merino stud on this location and has recently added to his holdings by the acquisition of a 700-acre property on which he has established studs of A.I.S. cattle, Suffolk sheep and Large White Pigs.

In 1947 he was elected as member for Wagin in the Legislative Assembly, in succession to the late Mr. Sydney Stubbs, M.L.A. The Wagin constituency was abolished in the 1948 re-distribution of seats and Mr. Nalder became the member for Katanning in 1950, and has since been returned unopposed for this electorate on three occasions.

As a successful exhibitor at agricultural shows he has played an important role in publicising the quality of the livestock produced in his electorate. At one time, he was the youngest member of the Wagin branch of the Primary Producers’ Association, and later as vice-president of the branch he played a leading part in his district in bringing about the amalgamation of the P.P.A. and the Wheatgrowers’ Union to form the Farmers’ Union, of which he has been a member since its inception.
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