1-1-1971

Retirement: senior adviser

Department of Agriculture, Western Australia

Follow this and additional works at: https://researchlibrary.agric.wa.gov.au/journal_agriculture4

Recommended Citation

Available at: https://researchlibrary.agric.wa.gov.au/journal_agriculture4/vol12/iss3/16

This article is brought to you for free and open access by Research Library. It has been accepted for inclusion in Journal of the Department of Agriculture, Western Australia, Series 4 by an authorized administrator of Research Library. For more information, please contact jennifer.heathcote@agric.wa.gov.au, sandra.papenfus@agric.wa.gov.au, paul.orange@dpird.wa.gov.au.
RETIREMENTS

North-West Chief

Chief of the Department of Agriculture’s North-West Division, Mr. W. M. Nunn has retired. He has been Chief of the Division since its inception.

Mr. Nunn attended Scotch College and graduated in agriculture from the University of Western Australia in 1933.

He spent the next two years at the Muresk Agricultural College as a housemaster and lecturer in agriculture.

After one year’s field work with the Forests Department, Mr. Nunn joined the Wheat Branch of the Department of Agriculture in 1937. He remained with the Wheat Branch as an adviser until the outbreak of the World War, when he was engaged in flax assessment. About a year after the war started, he was seconded by the Commonwealth Government to assist in war-time food control.

When he returned to Western Australia at the end of the war, agricultural development was just beginning in the North-West and Mr. Nunn was made responsible for these activities.

In 1950, the Gascoyne Research Station, Kimberley Research Station and the Abydos Pastoral Research Station, were amalgamated to become the North-West Branch, with Mr. Nunn in charge. The North-West Branch became the North-West Division in 1960 with Mr. Nunn as Chief.

It is only since the war that the Department of Agriculture has conducted investigations into the problems of pastoral areas. Mr. Nunn feels that this has been one of the most exciting aspects of his time with the Department.

The period for which he has been head of the North-West Division has also seen the development of schemes to introduce agriculture as such to the North. This has led to the development of the Ord River Irrigation Scheme.

Senior Adviser

Mr. H. G. Cariss, one of the best known agricultural advisers in the Department of Agriculture’s Wheat and Sheep Division, retired this month.

Mr. Cariss has worked as an adviser and research worker throughout the agricultural areas—from Geraldton to Esperance—for more than 30 years.

He completed his degree in agricultural science at the University of Western Australia in 1929 and farmed in the Mingenew district until 1938, when he joined the Department’s Wheat Branch. Since then he has carried out advisory work in all aspects of agriculture in the cereal and sheep areas, and research into cereal, pasture and stock problems.

Working from the Department’s head office he helped to co-ordinate the Division’s district advisory services and organised the work of its nine research stations.

In 1942 Mr. Cariss was involved in the first linseed growing in Western Australia and has been closely associated with development of the crop since then.

In 1964 he was made responsible for the administration of research stations in the cereal and sheep areas. He has helped to plan major research projects on the stations and has coordinated their research programmes, as well as being actively involved in many.

He has been responsible for the administration of the Fertilisers Act and Feeding Stuffs Act since 1940, and for the inspection of cereal grains for export.

Mr. Cariss’ position has been filled by Mr. G. T. Halpin, formerly Officer-in-Charge of the Department’s Katanning district office and well known as a cereal and sheep adviser to farmers throughout the Great Southern.

Mr. Halpin was closely associated with the development of big areas of new land south and east of Katanning and was responsible for a wide range of sheep management research in the lower Great Southern.