

Swift Current, Maple Creek, etc. The excellent pastures and the abundant supply of water made the country especially adapted to stock raising. With the increase in population and the development of the grain-growing industry, the rancher has been obliged to seek the rougher parts of the province for his ranges. A large number of the farmers are now devoting themselves to mixed farming, which appears to be gaining in popularity, especially in the older districts.

*Alberta.*—In what is now the province of Alberta agriculture was carried on in a small way as early as 1809 at the trading posts of the Hudson's Bay Company, where wonderful crops of vegetables and field crops were grown. In the seventies cattle were brought in from Montana to the Macleod district, becoming the nucleus of the great Alberta ranches.

Alberta is divided into three sections, the Peace River, central and southern. The Peace River or northern section was first settled by the Hudson's Bay Company, which later at its various forts and mission stations grew potatoes, beets and all sorts of garden truck. The soil is a rich dark loam, well supplied with the plant foods most needed and the wheat produced is of the best quality. Very many varieties of grasses abound and these make excellent pasture, the chinook making this grass available throughout the year. The central section is more of a mixed farming country. In this section most of the dairy and live stock enterprises of the province are found. All sorts of grain crops do well. The southern part of the province was originally a ranching country for cattle, horses and sheep. This has been considerably changed through the introduction of irrigation enterprises, a great diversity of crops such as grains, forage and roots being grown, and the yields are exceptionally large. A large quantity of grain hay is grown. The whole province is being turned into a mixed farming country, and while the large horse-and-cattle ranges are gradually disappearing, the farmers of the present day are raising a better class of stock.

*British Columbia.*—Daniel Williams Harmon was the first farmer in British Columbia, settling in the Fraser Lake district. Entries in his diary show that in 1811, 1815 and other years, he planted potatoes, vegetables and barley and that the yields were large, one bushel of potatoes producing forty-one, and five quarts of barley sown yielding five bushels. For many years fine crops were grown in this district and at the posts of the Hudson's Bay Company, which, together with the North-West Company, was the pioneer in agriculture in British Columbia. In 1837 the Hudson's Bay Company had a large farm near Fort Vancouver, producing grain, vegetables and other crops and carrying all kinds of live stock. They had large farms at Nisqually and Cowlitz and smaller ones on Vancouver island, Dr. John McLoughlin being one of the great promoters of agriculture. With the gold rush to the Cariboo in the 50's, and the springing up of mining camps, an impetus was given to farming in order to supply produce to these camps. This was the beginning of stock raising in the valleys of the