

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. This was the beginning of stock raising in the valleys of the Thompson and Nicola. Later many of the miners turned to farming and stock raising.

Progress Since Confederation.

The political union of Canada, as effected under the British North America Act, 1867, did much to stimulate agricultural progress throughout Canada, especially as it resulted in the establishment of the Dominion Department of Agriculture, whose efforts have been a powerful addition to those of the Provincial Departments of Agriculture. Universal agricultural depression in the eighties led to the creation of the experimental farm system and the consequent improvement of agricultural practice in many directions. Great changes in the incidence of farming operations were brought about by the opening up of the Prairie Provinces through the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway, completed for traffic in 1886. Various changes of fiscal policy on the part of both Canada and the United States have had important results. An influence, temporarily in the wrong direction, was the adoption in 1890 of the McKinley tariff, the effect of which was largely to exclude Canadian agricultural products from the United States. Grain growing in Ontario and Eastern Canada generally was adversely affected by this tariff and also by the rapidly increasing grain production of the Prairie Provinces under conditions of virginal fertility and low cost. These conditions diverted the trade in agricultural products from the United States to the United Kingdom, and gave rise to the establishment in Eastern Canada of cheese factories and creameries and to an important export trade in dairy products, especially cheese, to the United Kingdom. The introduction from Denmark in 1882 of the centrifugal cream separator was another noteworthy element in the expansion of the Canadian dairying industry. Through the efforts of the Dominion and Provincial Departments of Agriculture and other varied forms of associated activity, much improvement in agricultural practice has been accomplished. In connection with dairying alone, the present practice of forcing milk production in the winter as well as in the summer, largely through the use of corn silage, was undreamed of a generation ago. Similar remarks apply to the year-round forcing of meat production, also a practice now followed by advanced farmers where the conditions are suitable.

Towards the end of the nineteenth century a policy of extensively advertising the agricultural possibilities of Canada for the attraction of new immigrants was vigorously pursued and proved highly successful. The annually increasing tide of fresh settlers and the investment in Canada of large amounts of British capital were indeed outstanding features of the first decade of the present century, and the extraordinary progress in the settlement and development of the Prairie Provinces was due to these factors. The number of new immigrants arriving in a single year reached its maximum in 1913 with 402,432. Then came the outbreak of the great war in 1914, causing a complete disruption of national life and entailing consequences profoundly affecting agriculture. Reviewing the period as a whole in the light of the statistics available, it may be stated that with a population of 9,082,840 as compared with 3,454,000, the acreage under wheat has grown from 1,646,781 in 1870 to 22,672,000 in 1923, and the wheat production, which was not more than 16½ million bushels in 1870, reached the maximum of 474,199,000 bushels in 1923. Canada is,