



MR. J. R. ANDERSON.
Deputy Minister of Agriculture, British Columbia.

for 30 head has just been completed, cement-floored throughout.

The water supply is abundant and of good quality, and the farmstead is surrounded by 20 acres of trees, planted some years ago. The farm and its management were reviewed in the "Advocate" last June. Suffice it now to say that the 1,030 acres of wheat yielded 20,000 bushels. The yield of flax was about 2,400 bushels, which, together with barley and oats, brought up a total of over 30,000 bushels of grain from the 1,490 acres in crop. Each year 160 acres are seeded to timothy, which gives most satisfactory returns. All the manure is spread direct from the stables during winter on the sod land. This large acreage, as well as the Galloway herd, is under the able management of Mr. T. M. Campbell.

Condition and Progress of British Columbia Agriculture, 1901.

BY R. M. PALMER.

The agricultural industry of British Columbia, in common with all other industries of the Province, has been largely influenced by the condition and rapid development of the mining resources within its borders and those of the adjacent Yukon Territory.

MINING.—The output of placer gold from the Klondyke is yearly increasing, and is estimated for the current year at \$25,000,000. While lode mining for precious metals in the Province has been retarded by unfortunate differences between mine-owners and employees as to hours of labor and rates of wages, and strikes have been only too common, the latest official returns show a marked increase in production, the extent of which and the relation it bears to mining in other portions of the Dominion is shown in the following table, taken from the Report of the Provincial Minister of Mines for 1901:

COMPARATIVE MINERAL PRODUCTION FOR 1900, OF BRITISH COLUMBIA AND OTHER PROVINCES OF THE DOMINION.

	Dominion Total.	Yukon Territory.	
Gold.....		\$22,275,000	
			British Columbia.
			All Other Provinces Combined.
Gold.....	\$ 5,441,752	\$ 4,722,105	\$ 619,647
Silver.....	2,730,598	2,309,200	421,398
Copper.....	3,063,119	1,615,289	1,447,830
Lead.....	2,760,521	2,691,887	68,634
Iron.....	584,898	1,740	583,158
Nickel.....	3,327,707	—	3,327,707
Coal.....	12,668,475	4,318,785	8,349,690
Coke.....	699,140	425,745	273,395
Total.....	\$53,551,210	\$16,084,751	\$15,041,459

MARKET DEMANDS.—As a natural consequence following the mining developments referred to, the demand for agricultural produce to supply the various camps is constantly enlarging, and furnishes a solid basis upon which farmers may lay their plans for crop production, with the certainty of finding a ready cash market and high prices, comparatively, for everything raised on their farms.

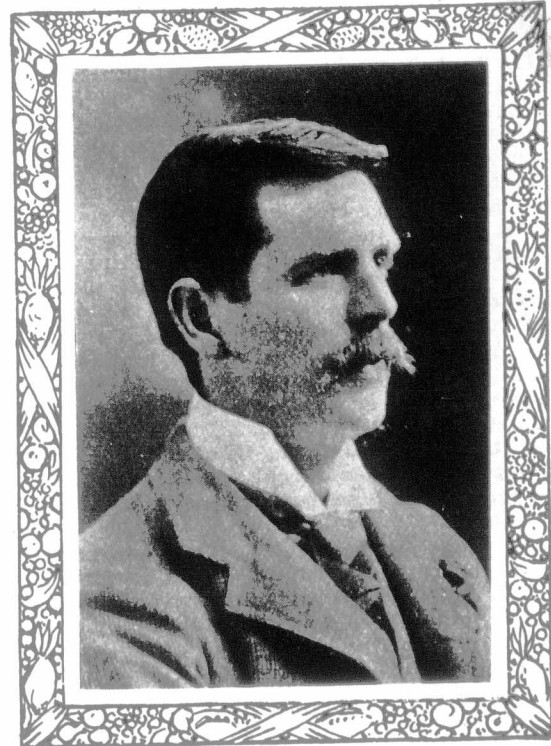
A notable feature of the markets in mining districts is that the highest quality is demanded: "the miner spends his money freely, and the best

is none too good for him." Shipments of perishable farm products, such as fruit, potatoes and other vegetables, must also leave Coast shipping points not later than the middle of September. This necessitates the growing of varieties which mature quickly, and certain districts, notably the Saanich Peninsula on Vancouver Island, the southern portion of the Okanagan Valley, and portions of the Fraser Valley, are paying special attention to the Northern trade requirements, on account of the early ripening of crops grown there.

HAY.—At least 70,000 tons of hay are required annually for the Klondyke alone, of the finest quality. For producing this, the interior districts of Kamloops, Ashcroft, Shuswap and part of the Okanagan Valley are specially adapted, both in soil and climate, and the production of high-class timothy hay is likely to become a leading feature of the agriculture of these districts. It must not, however, be supposed that farming in British Columbia is being conducted primarily with the view of supplying Yukon requirements. The recent census returns indicate that the Province itself has nearly trebled in population during the last decade, and this increase is found mainly in mining cities and camps, all of which are likewise large consumers of high-class agricultural produce.

FREIGHT RATES.—Some of these markets, notably the Kootenays, are more accessible to our American neighbors than to farmers of our own Coast districts, but this is offset by the customs duties on imported produce, and the very favorable freight rates on farm produce made by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company from the farming districts to all points reached by its system. The fact is, British Columbia is importing yearly more and more agricultural produce, because of the disparity between the development of mining, fishing and lumbering, and agricultural development.

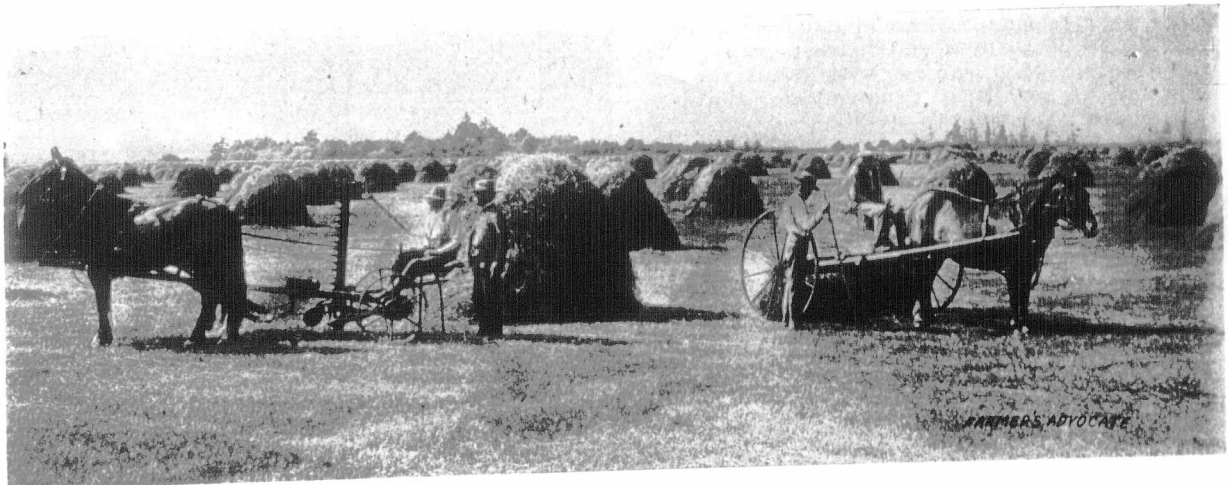
CO-OPERATIVE DAIRYING has made good progress since the inception of creameries in 1895. At the present time, five creameries have a yearly butter output exceeding 80,000 lbs. each, and as many more average 50,000 lbs. each, and besides these, there are several private creamery plants



HON. JOHN DOUGLAS PRENTICE.
Minister of Finance and Agriculture, British Columbia.

arranging for further shipments of pure-bred stock of both beef and dairy types, and also for upwards of 2,000 head of stockers required by range-owners in interior districts. As might be expected, the production of beef and pork for sale as butchers' meat has been very remunerative during the past two years, where conditions were favorable. The problem has been, and will continue to be, how to approximate supply to demand from home sources.

HORSE-BREEDING is in a very healthy condition, and decidedly on the increase. Farmers

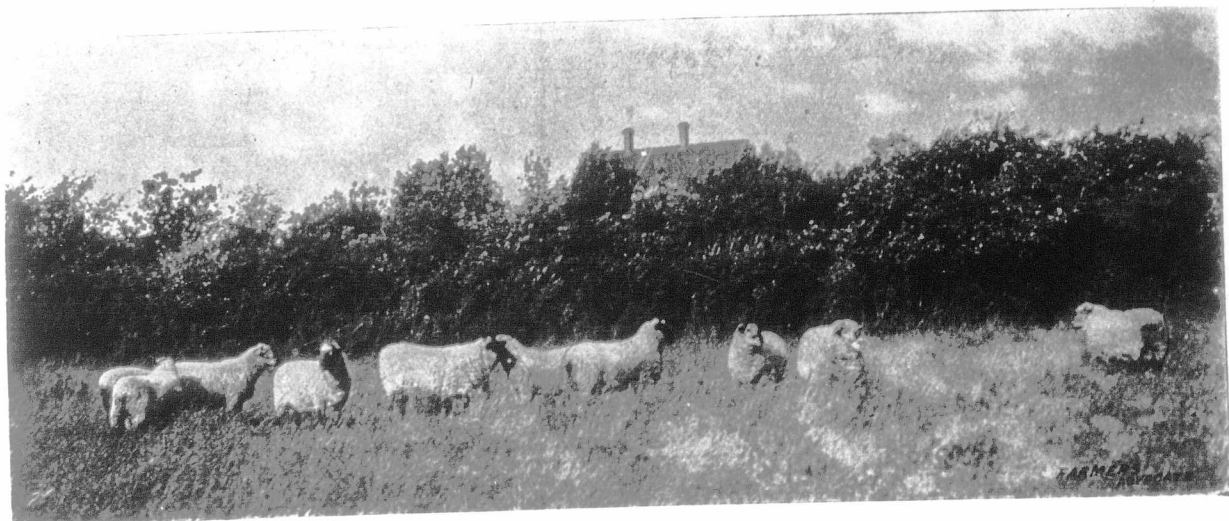


HAYMAKING, T. LADNER'S FARM, DELTA, B. C.

of considerable size. Prices obtained for the butter produced are distinctly high, running up to 35 cents per pound, with the demand far in excess of supply. The general adoption of the creamery system has brought about a demand for better stock, which has been catered to through the agency of the Provincial Dairymen's Association co-operating with the Dominion Live Stock Commissioner at Ottawa. By this means, ten or more carloads of pure-bred stock have been imported from Ontario and distributed, mostly by auction sales, at which very good prices were realized.

BEEF AND PORK PRODUCTION.—At the present time, Mr. J. H. Hadwen, secretary of the Dairymen's Association, is in Western Ontario

who have had good Clyde or Shire grades, going 1,700 lbs. or over, have no difficulty in selling at good prices. As a result of the Klondyke rushes, the Province was scoured for horseflesh in all directions; anything with four legs had a cash value at that time, and the country was well rid of a lot of poor stock, which has since been replaced by good grades. The eastern stock judges, Messrs. Davidson, Anderson and Elliott, who acted as such at the most important agricultural exhibitions held in the Province in October last, rated the horseflesh exhibited as comparing favorably with that of Ontario, except, of necessity, as to numbers. Systematic work is being done, both in breeding and feeding, to supply the demand for heavy horses, both in the farming sec-



T. LADNER'S RAMS, DELTA, BRITISH COLUMBIA.