

TAXES LIGHT

Local taxes are by no means burdensome. Compared with the States and other countries they are very light. Allowing for difference in location, etc., the annual levy will average about 50 cents per acre.

RAILWAY AND ROAD COMMUNICATION WONDERFUL

When the C.P.R. had laid its band of steel across the continent, a junction with the huge network of railroads south of the line was required. A branch-line south from Mission City to Sumas, Washington, was made the connecting link with the American lines. A bridge was thrown over the Fraser into Matsqui, and the Canadian Pacific makes its Seattle connections by a road through this district, having stations at Matsqui, Clayburn and Abbotsford. This gives direct communication with the Coast and all the great American North West. The American "Hill" line, the Great Northern Railway, on its way from the States to Vancouver, runs east and west through the southern section of the municipality, making stations at Abbotsford, Pinegrove and Aldergrove.

Parallel to this, across the northern end, runs the Canadian Northern, the great Transcontinental line, calling at Mt. Lehman and Matsqui, and intervening milk stations. These three great lines run a minimum of one train a day, and in themselves give ample facilities, one would imagine, for the shipment of local produce. When running west they carry daily loads of milk and cream from the valley to the Coast cities, with other subsidiary products, and on the eastward journey take the summer fruits of the district with the lumber ties and shingles from the several lumber mills through the Rockies to the Prairie countries.

B.C. ELECTRIC RAILWAY IS THE FARMER'S CAR

But the most popular of all railways was built in 1910, when the B.C. Electric Railway Co. laid down the Chilliwack branch from Vancouver, through the most populous parts of the Fraser Valley to Chilliwack city. A distance of 75 miles at an outlay of three and a half million dollars.

Through the winter months three passenger trains daily are run the whole distance. In summer this service is increased as the traffic demands. An easy, rapid and cheap method of transportation is thus provided, permitting the Matsqui farmer to leave home after "chores" in the morning, spend several hours in town, and get back again in time for his evening work—that is, of course, if he lives near the station.

He can be carried conveniently to neighboring districts and back, for sales, meetings, business or social visits, even the autoist finding the service advantageous as all gatherings are timed to fit the timetable. Special cars can be engaged for particular excursions.