

of two hours talking and demonstrating dairying at a dozen points in the Province is small in itself and may accomplish little, but the fact that the Government have at last been induced to make a practical move in this direction is much and points to brighter things in dairying for the future. Manitoba has been tremendously outstripped by the two newer provinces along the lines of dairy education, but it is not too late to pick up yet, now that a start has been made.

SCHOOL LANDS GO HIGH.

During the month of June the Province sold 86,662 acres of school lands and realized the high average of \$10.46 per acre for that number. The highest price realized was at Winnipeg where 28,334 acres averaged \$12.72. When it is realized that the upset price was \$7.00 per acre, it gives a good idea of the demand for these lands. Fully 95 per cent. of all sales were to farmers and a very large percentage of the lands were purchased by farmers living on adjoining sections.

NEWSPAPER CHANGES.

June was marked by quite a number of changes in the editorial sanctums of agricultural papers in the West. On the 15th of the month Dr. A. G. Hopkins, who has been editor-in-chief of the Farmer's Advocate (western edition), for the past two years, left to join the staff of the Chief Veterinary Inspector and Live Stock Commissioner. The doctor will be much missed at gatherings of live stock men (unless his new duties bring him West). He is a ready and forceful speaker and dearly loved the scrimmage of a warm debate. He is followed in his new position by abundant good wishes from the West.

Mr. Eddy, who has been an associate editor of the Northwest Farmer, left earlier in the month to fill the position of representative of the Seed Branch of the Department of Agriculture in Manitoba, left vacant by Mr. J. Bracken, who accepted the position of Superintendent of Institutes and Fairs for Saskatchewan, a position left vacant by the appointment of Mr. James Murray to be Superintendent of the Brandon Experimental Farm.

It has been a general switch round, but to-date the vacancies in the editorial staffs have not been filled.

BEEF COMMISSION.

This august body has not yet

got through its deliberations, but judging from the class of evidence already in, there has been little proof of a combine so far. The cattle men of the West have a number of real grievances, and no doubt a thorough airing of these will bring about much needed reforms, even if the present day bug-a-boo of a combine is not discovered. Startling developments, however, are promised for Winnipeg. Very likely they will prove of the same order of mare's nest as "the startling revelations" of the Royal Grain Commission.

Agricultural Conditions in Saskatchewan

There has just been completed in the Province of Saskatchewan a series of Farmers' Institute meetings. The province was divided into two series, for each of which a delegation of two speakers was provided. The speakers were Mr. C. M. MacRae, B.S. A., and Mr. Duncan Anderson, of Orillia, for the Live Stock Branch, and Mr. T. N. Willing, Inspector of Weeds in Saskatchewan, and Mr. A. P. Ketchen, Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture for that Province.

Owing to the lateness of the meetings the earlier ones were poorly attended, as most of the farmers had not finished seeding, but during the latter half of the period the meetings were exceedingly well attended.

Messrs. Anderson and MacRae report that although growth was very slow in commencing that it has made such rapid progress since the summer weather and the rains have come that vegetation is very little behind what it was at the same period last year.

These gentlemen report that the live stock, particularly in the eastern part of the Province, have come through the winter in excellent condition. The farmers were supplied with an abundance of hay and oat straw, with which they were able to bring through their stock in really fine condition.

Mr. Anderson is enthusiastic with regard to the portion of the country which he visited north of the Saskatchewan. The land is rolling and much better adapted to mixed farming than wheat growing. He considers that there is a wide field for the milking Shorthorn. While beef cattle are needed they will be much more valuable to the

farmer if they are able to produce a good quantity of milk. Cream gathering creameries are springing up and these will be able to take care of a large quantity of milk from dual purpose cows. From the class of settlers in a large portion of the country and the physical features of the land, it would appear that in a very few years there would be a very extensive output of butter, cheese and bacon. With this combination associated with wheat growing, the rolling sections of Saskatchewan promise to become an ideal farmers country.

S. B.

Farming in British Columbia

Farming, the first occupation of man, is fast taking its place, even in this mining, lumbering, fishing province, as the chief interest of a large section of the population. And the additions to the population in the past three or four years have been almost entirely because of more attention to the agricultural possibilities of the Province of British Columbia. This is worthy of note for two reasons; the increased interest has largely been from the outside as shown by the influx; the incoming agriculturists have found something well worth engaging their attention here.

A DIVERSIFIED FIELD.

The agricultural field is nowhere more diversified than in British Columbia. From growing chickens on two acres to growing range cattle on a thousand hills, miles on miles in extent; from dairying and potato planting in the rich delta of the Fraser River, to the peach orchards of the Okanagan, the strawberry fields of the Kootenay, and the tobacco plantations of Kelowna, diversified farming in all its forms may be seen. And the manner of cultivation is as varied as the branches of the agricultural industry. Down on the coast they joke about shingling the cows to keep the milk up to a standard. Up in the "dry belt" of Ashcroft and Kamloops and down in the famed Okanagan they grow peaches on a gravel bed by the single agency of streams of water led from the mountains through "irrigation ditches." And wherever man is found in the occupation of tilling the soil in this truly wonderful Province, he is securing not only a comfortable living, but a satisfactory surplus from his efforts.

There is a process of a rural industry in British Columbia, strictly which all tried on. instance, of the kitchen orchard or tion, unless suburban other of the yard plant pastime and nish a little own grow orchard and the Okanagan berry field the Fraser couver Island on its merited-earned ed show w plantations ers or not. of Peachland only been th and many market as a common net product peach plants er \$300 in single acres been sold o fruit at prices. For tree has h worth of ch And there enough peach or cherries to market prop market to the berta, Saskatchewan, there tithe of the grown in British one year that in the prairie mandated.

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