

on three sides. Green food can be had eleven months in the year, running streams will not freeze at all, and duck ponds for little more than a month.

CHICKEN FEED EASILY GROWN ON FERTILE LAND

Chicken feed is high-priced at the Coast, the long hauls of the Alberta wheat making it expensive even in normal times. The progressive poultryman is little concerned with this, however, for he grows the greater bulk of his feed on his own place.

There are instances, notwithstanding, in the Municipality of Matsqui where men have bought every scrap of feed, including grit, at war-time prices, are depending solely on profits from the hen-roost for their support, and yet have pulled themselves out of debt and started a balance at the bank which is continually growing. The reason lies, of course, in the fine marketing facilities. The Coast cities must have fresh eggs and poultry, and will pay prices that stagger the Eastern farmer. In pre-war days eggs averaged 57c per dozen. In the Fall of 1918 they were retailed at eight cents each in Vancouver, and so long as grain continues high, the price of eggs is bound to correspond.

BEE-KEEPING MOST PROFITABLE

An industry, comparatively new to the Province, is bee-keeping. Professional bee-keepers who are devoting themselves solely to the production of honey can be counted on the fingers even yet. There is only one in this district. From some sixty-five hives he has taken in one year three tons of honey. This was sold at a price that paid him average wages for the twelve months, yet the care of the bees, extracting and selling the honey occupied less than half his working hours. Many people keep a few bees for their own table supply of honey. A few others, as a side line, keep a dozen or more colonies which net them handsome profits. An average hive in an average year should yield fifty pounds of honey, worth ten to twelve dollars on the market.

EXCELLENT MARKETS EASILY ACCESSIBLE

Production necessitates a market. Markets must be accessible. Communities are isolated, markets cannot be reached without good transportation service.

The first highway in the province was built in the old days of gold, from New Westminster to the Cariboo fields, and this old trail known as the Yale Road remains the finest road in the country. It crosses Matsqui roughly from east to west and forms the main artery to which other trunk roads are tributary. It is maintained by the Provincial Government, and is no expense to the district, which can, therefore, apply all its local revenue to the development and up-keep of smaller roads and outlets for settlers.