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Cooperation and Dairying at Chilliwack, B.C.

Dairying, the District's Main Asset, but Cooperative Fruit Shipping is to be Developed.

THE farmers of Chilliwack, New Westminster Dist., B.C., are preparing to take care of this business in many ways. They are tilling greater areas of land and are cultivating their land much more intensively. They have already organized their marketing machine and have successfully operated it for two years.

Perhaps in no section of British Columbia has a more successful co-operative marketing organization been operated than in Chilliwack. Last year it did a business of \$200,000. This year its officers expect the turnover to be \$100,000. An increase in business of 25 per cent. is one which any concern might well be proud of in this troublesome year.

The "Chilliwack Producers' Exchange was organized two years ago with a capitalization of \$100,000, divided into 2,000 shares of \$50 each. Sixty per cent. of this amount was subscribed for by the farmers themselves who paid up 50 per cent. of their subscription. The remaining 40 per cent. was to be loaned by the Government, making a working capital of \$70,000. The Government, however, did not see its way clear to make the loan and so the exchange began business on the capital put up by the farmers. The Government loan is not needed, and perhaps the officials in Victoria looked into the future and saw this and did not advance the money. At the present time the majority of the stock is paid up, and those who have not paid up are making every effort to complete their allotments.

A problem that then confronted the farmers, after the preliminary organization had been completed, was to secure a place of business. The B.C. Electric Railway was approached and half of the fine large freight warehouse was secured. Here an office was installed and the exchange started business, with Mr. E. C. Eckert, one of the large land owners of the district, as manager.

Buy and Sell Feed

Feed was bought and sold to the farmers at a commission of 10 per cent. This worked successfully, and then feeds and grains by the car were brought to Chilliwack for distribution. This part of the business has now reached large proportions.

The principal idea in organizing the exchange was to secure a central agency for the marketing of farm produce. This has been done and will become a greater factor in the development of this district than was at first anticipated, so well has the exchange looked after the farmers' interests.

Last year 70 cars of produce were shipped from the exchange to houses to points both east and west. But east is where every farmer in the community will tell you that he is going to sell more fruits and vegetables.

A commission of 10 per cent. is charged for selling produce, while if the farmer buys feed the same rate is charged on the purchasing price. Mr. E. C. Eckert has worked up a good connection in the east, having been alive to the opportunity that awaited the district upon the completion of the new ocean to ocean railway.

From many towns on the prairies orders are pouring in that cannot be filled because the exchange cannot secure the fruits and vegetables specified by the prairie dealers. Every mail brings more orders.

Fruit East; Milk West

But with Chilliwack awakening to the business on the prairies she has

not forgotten her dairying industry, her greatest asset, nor will she, because the dairymen of the valley will always ship their milk here.

"Our fruit will go east and our milk will go west," say those who are in touch with the situation.

The Chilliwack Creamery is at present receiving 10 tons of milk per day, the majority of which is pasteurized and shipped to Vancouver. The morning's milking is gathered by the creamery's own wagons from the farmers and taken to the creamery where after being treated, is shipped to the city in the late afternoon and is delivered during the evening.

But little butter is made by this concern, which is also a cooperative company, because the managers say there is more money to be made by shipping milk to the city than by making butter.

"Vancouver people are too fond of New Zealand's product, and that's the reason for our loss of business," said Mr. W. K. McLeod of the creamery, this week. "We would be shipping more milk to your city, but some of the health inspectors down there have evidently taken it into their heads that they will lose their jobs unless they do some testing, and so they are finding all sorts of 'bugs' in our milk, which is curtailing the output somewhat, but as you can see there is little chance of any impure milk leaving this creamery." The farmers receive 32 cents per pound butter fat for their milk at the farm.

Those who follow the dairying industry are busy investigating the difference in the price that the farmers receive for the milk and that which the milkman in Vancouver charges his customers.

Four per cent. milk costs the farmer \$2 for 10 pounds of milk, which is equal to 12.8 cents per gallon. The price paid by the average citizen to the milkman in the city is 10 cents per quart, or 40 cents per gallon. This amount 12.8 cents goes to the farmer, 0.2% to the transportation company, and the remainder where? That is what some of the farmers would like to know, because they think they should be paid a higher price for their milk when it is sold for 40 cents in the city.

The Chilliwack Creamery and the Chilliwack Producers' Exchange are cooperative concerns, owned and managed by the farmers, which are being run successfully and are excellent examples of cooperative methods amongst the farmers.

The future will see them flourish to a greater extent than they have in the past, and the management of the latter especially is alive to the necessity of catering to the prairie markets where thousands of dollars are awaiting the farmers who grow the fruits and vegetables to supply the demands. The exchange will market all that can be grown in the district, and will return the producer a good return on his investment.—W. L. McTaggart in The Daily Province, Vancouver.

The annual convention of the Ontario Horticultural Association will be held at the Parliament Buildings, Toronto, on Wednesday and Thursday, November 10th and 11th, for which an excellent program has been prepared. A number of experts along the line of civic improvement will be present, among them, Mr. T. Adams, the town planning expert, and Mr. Jno. Dunbar, of the Horticultural Department, Rochester, N.



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Feeding The Details of

THE feeding of

before it is born. It is a very nice very scant feeding as a result weak feeders from birth are handicapped and are difficult to fatten for economy for any dairyman. A cow under such conditions is likely to affect unfavorably the calf as well as the cow. While the denials are perhaps not true, all milk production nevertheless a severe loss on her, and she should be liberally so as to produce a strong weak calf, and so that she will give good condition to give flow of milk.

Teaching the Calf

In nature the calf will nurse until it can supply its own needs. In modern dairy farming, however, the value of the whole milk forces the farmer to separate the calf from the cow soon after birth. The milk produced by the cow in the first few days (colostrum) properties which put digestive system in proper order. It is therefore very important to say that the newly-born calf should have this milk. It practices to let the calf nurse for about 48 hours after birth, but if weak or undeveloped it may be weaned for suck for several days strength.

The longer a calf stays with the cow the harder to teach it to drink, but it is a simple matter to drink if taken when milk. Before this is done the calf is kept from the cow then be very hungry. The mother's milk, fresh into a clean pail and which will sometimes drink and without coaxing, it will be necessary to "finger" and by this means to get the calf to rise into the milk. This should be done carefully as soon