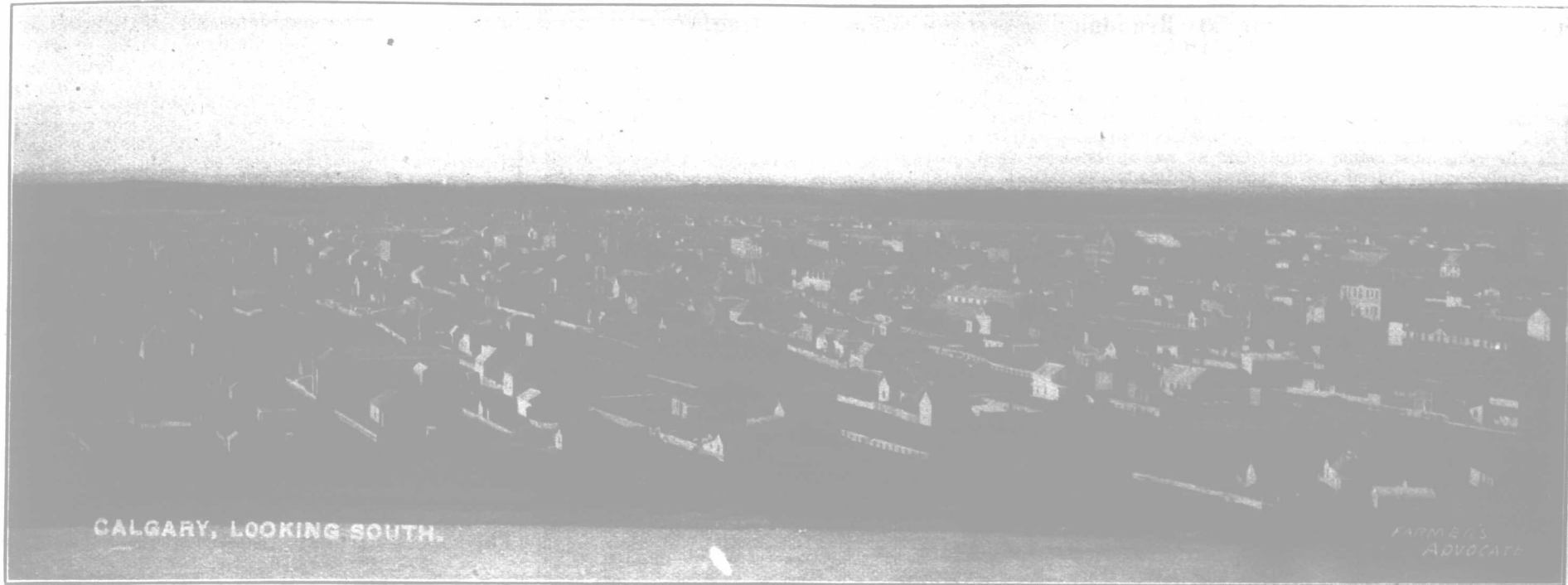




CALGARY, LOOKING SOUTH.

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dairying, and advanced the State five years in this branch of agriculture.

It is claimed by some that just as good butter can be made in the hand-separator as in the whole-milk factory. While the writer is in accord with this belief, he is compelled to admit that so far it has not been done. The difficulty seems to be in not receiving the cream in as good condition as the milk. It is surely as easy to take care of five gallons of cream as twenty-five gallons of milk. If, then, the cream is delivered in a poorer condition than the milk, it is either carelessness or ignorance on the part of the farmer. Either is to be deplored, and it is up to the buttermaker to get him out of the rut. How to do it is the problem, and the writer, for one, is open for suggestions.

The chief advantages of the hand-separator system can be summed up as follows:

1. Better skim milk for feed.
2. The milk can be skimmed and fed at regular hours.
3. Not so much to haul to the creamery, hence less time and less cost.
4. The capacity of the plant can be increased.

The chief disadvantages are:

1. A poorer quality of butter.
2. The application of hand power in the separation of milk.

In the central creamery some of these advantages and disadvantages will be intensified.

The central creamery will want a thick, heavy cream, in order to keep down the transportation charges. The small dairyman cannot ship often enough, and a poorer quality of cream will be the result.

How much acidity cream may have, to be pasteurized successfully, has not been determined, and will the pasteurizing of stale sweet cream and the use of pure cultures produce butter of extra quality is a question yet unsettled. It seems to the writer as if it were folly to pass judgment on the central creamery until at least these two problems have been settled. It cannot be said they are impossible, for greater unheard and unthought of problems in dairy science have been solved in the last ten years. In view of what the hand-separator and central creamery has done for dairying in North Dakota, the writer cannot be blamed for not condemning them, but at the same time he is cognizant of and recognizes their imperfections.

Manitoba conditions are quite similar to North Dakota, and it would not be surprising if this system found favor in the eyes of the Manitoba farmer.

What We Owe to Agriculture.

"In this country the agricultural interests, including the number of people engaged and the amount of capital invested in them, are equal to all others combined; and this being true, they are certainly entitled to the good-will and Godspeed, and to all the assistance and comfort that every man in the State and nation can give them. We will always, so far as I can see, be an agricultural nation; and if this is so, how can we better serve every man, woman and child than by fostering as far as possible the one interest that is equal to all other interests combined. The first step is to educate practically the farmer to follow his business in a businesslike way that will bring him a reasonably profitable return."—J. J. Hill, President Great Northern Railway.

Beekeeping in Manitoba.

BY J. J. GUNN, GONOR, MAN.

The position that this industry has attained in this Province leaves no ground to doubt a great and rapid development if its advantages and possibilities are but properly brought to the notice of the people. In this connection the "Farmer's Advocate" is doing a valuable service by devoting a column to "the apiary," thus keeping it before the public as a thing that is established and with us to stay.

The industry is in its infancy, most decidedly, but with men from all points of the Province reporting success whenever conditions have been intelligently dealt with, it can no longer be looked upon as a matter of experiment. The number of people engaging in it is yet very small, but steadily increasing. There is no reason why thousands should not be so employed. Large portions of the Province are admirably adapted for bee-culture, the honey-bearing flora being varied and profuse, ensuring good and even phenomenal returns, as has been repeatedly proved, without the necessity of providing artificial pasture. The honey produced is excellent in every respect, and takes second place to nothing in the market. In twenty-five years or more, that bees have been kept in the Province, no

promising market. Why should not the people of this Province supply this market? If there is money in it for Ontario people, there is surely much more in it for us. At the present time between ten and twelve thousand dollars annually go into the pockets of beekeepers in Eastern Canada and the railroad companies, which should go to the farmers of Manitoba. And these figures do not represent what the market ought to be at this moment, much less do they indicate what it might become in a short time if local beekeepers but prove equal to the opportunity before them.

The people want some educating in this matter. The general idea regarding honey seems to be that it is a luxury to be indulged only by the wealthy. People from the east and south, in whose old homes pure fresh honey was an article of every-day consumption, seem to have accepted the belief that it must, by the nature of things here, be a thing of the past, like their grapes and peaches. This belief is confirmed when the grocer asks them a quarter for an eight-ounce jar of glycerine, etc., with a honey label on it. But let us show them that we can produce first-class honey right here, and give it to them in any quantity and in any shape, and at prices which place it within the reach of all, and the great difficulty will not be to occupy the market as it is, but to keep pace with the growth of it.

And we can do this. While allowing our colonies to swarm freely, usually increasing one hundred per cent., the honey yield as a rule averages well over 100 pounds to the colony. This is sufficient to show that the possibilities of production for the Province are great. It should also convince any one that there is money in it for the producer. With honey prices as they are in the West, and all conditions so favorable, it would seem strange if Manitoba farmers do not add beekeeping to the other operations of the farm in the near future.

The Manitou Plowing Match.

The plowing match, under the auspices of the Agricultural Society, which took place on the farm of Mr. Falls, a short distance east of the town, proved a very interesting event. It was the first that has been held in this part of the country, and may be pronounced a very successful beginning. Although the number of entries was not nearly so large as was expected, yet the number of spectators was large, indicating quite an interest in the affair. At half past one, the time set for the start, only six outfits were on the field—two gangs and four walking plows.

The competition took place on stubble land, and the work done was very creditable to the competitors. Many valuable points were brought out by the criticisms offered by the judges and by the spectators, which will help the plowmen in future matches. The directors also gained experience in the management of such a contest, so that all things augur well for matches in the future. Many of those who were onlookers this year expressed themselves as determined to enter another year.

Mr. D. Lang and Mr. T. Kingston acted as judges, and made satisfactory awards. The successful competitors were: In the men's class, walking plow—Mr. F. Turnbull, first; Mr. McNab, second. In boys' class, walking plow—Master Robinson first. In the gang class, Mr. Dawson took first and Mr. Wm. Archer second.

A six-year-old was seated in a barber's chair. "Well, my little man, how would you like your hair cut?" "Oh, like papa's; with a little round hole at the top."



T. UNDERWOOD.

Mayor of Calgary, Alta.

case of foul brood or other disease and no moths have been reported. We have also experienced a remarkable freedom from spring-dwindling, which proves such a serious matter in other places. These are a few of the advantages which this Province presents to the apiarist.

Then we have a large and ever-growing home market. The quantity of honey consumed in the Province, while not so great as it should be, is still very much in excess of what is produced, and this notwithstanding the advantage that heavy freight rates give us over producers in the Eastern Provinces. At the last annual meeting of the Ontario Beekeepers, their President spoke of Manitoba and the Territories as their most