

Industrial Mission

Mission City Location and Description

Small fruits, such as strawberries and raspberries, are a very large crop and one from which great profits have been made for some years. Rhubarb—the homely pie plant—is recognized as a successful specialty of Mission, and the growing of it on a commercial basis has long been carried on, many carloads being shipped each year, the local canneries also putting up large quantities. Apples, plums, cherries and other tree fruits grow freely and many new orchards are being set out each year. For all products a ready market exists, the closeness to Vancouver and New Westminster making shipment to those points easy and cheap. The operation of two canneries at Mission in the past two seasons has given increased market for all fruits and many vegetables. As but a tithe of the land capable of producing such crops is being cultivated, the possibilities for Mission as a cannery centre are just beginning to be grasped.

Dairying is getting much attention because of the adaptability of soil, climate and other conditions as well as from the profits returned. Hay crops grow abundantly and the yield is heavy. On the higher ground grain crops are extremely successful, although the heavy clearing has prevented large acreage being thus cropped. Field roots yield enormously—an instance vouched by the Mission Board of Trade, is given, where one acre returned in a single crop one hundred tons of mangold wurtzels. Fodder corn, vetches, and other green crops for ensilage also yield heavily. The mild winter climate and long open season are ideal for carrying dairy herds with minimum of housing and dry-feeding. As acreage is cleared and cultivated this industry will expand. As in fruits and vegetables, the market of the coast cities is insatiable.

Poultry raising for profit, alone and as an adjunct of intensified mixed farming and gardening is receiving much attention. Already the surplus poultry and egg production is quite an item in the shipments from Mission. All varieties of poultry have been successfully reared, and again the mild climate and short winter season is an advantage. Nearly every ranch has its flock of poultry and many residents of Mission City raise their own fowl as well as having enough egg supply for their own needs.