

Honey produced by up-to-date bee keepers in Kent County is of the best quality, and has taken no second place when exhibited in any foreign exhibition or world's fair.

A Kent Bee Keepers' Association was recently organized, indicating the growing importance of this industry.

LARGE PROFITS REALIZED FROM SUGAR BEET CROPS.

Almost as many sugar beets are produced in this one County of Kent as in all the remainder of Ontario. The deep, black alluvial soils are especially adapted to this very profitable crop, and the convenient location at Wallaceburg of the largest beet sugar factory in Canada helps to increase the returns.

Little more than 15 years ago, a few farmers in Kent commenced growing beets for export to United States factories. The soil and climate of Kent proved so favorable that in 1901 a large, modern sugar refinery was erected at Wallaceburg. This factory has been enlarged from time to time, until it now has a capacity of 1000 tons of beets per day, employs several hundred men, and represents an investment of about \$2,500,000. It is exceedingly well located in the centre of a good farming section, with good railway connections and the advantage of deep water navigation on the River Sydenham.

In October and November, when the beet crop is marketed, the factory becomes the centre of wonderful activity. Hundreds of farmers' wagons deliver beets direct to the factory, five railway lines in the county are kept busy handling the 2,500 cars necessary for the season's crop, and a fleet of boats owned by the company bring large quantities of beets to the factory from farms along the Thames and Sydenham rivers. Several Michigan factories, influenced by the productive soils, good transportation facilities

and superior qualities of the Kent-grown beets, still take considerable quantities, but about 90 per cent. of the crop is now manufactured at home.

Although the industry has already assumed large proportions, these represent only the beginnings. Underdraining, now carried on extensively, will undoubtedly increase the beet growing area in Kent.

Wherever the sugar beet can be successfully grown, it results in more people being employed on the soil, farmers become more prosperous and land values rapidly increase. This result is already evident in Kent. The beet acreage has steadily increased, the beet crop has proved a "mortgage lifter" on many farms, and land values have grown remarkably. In the thinning and harvesting seasons, about 1000 men are employed in the beet fields of the county, doing all the handwork on the crop for approximately \$18 an acre. As the crop usually yields from \$75 to \$125 an acre, this leaves the grower a handsome profit.

In 1912 about 7000 acres of beets were grown in Kent County, for which the farmers received \$400,000.

Not merely is beet growing a profitable industry, but the cultivation of the roots so improves and prepares the soil that the farmers secure also a great indirect profit in the larger yields of the grain and clover crops which follow in the rotation.

PROFITS IN POULTRY.

The temperate climate, the mild winters, the abundance of feed and the convenience to the cities of Ontario and the Eastern States, with their large consuming population favors poultry raising as well as the production of winter eggs. Poultry of all kinds—chickens, ducks, geese and turkeys—are profitably raised on Kent farms.



In 1912 Kent Farmers Received \$400,000 For Sugar Beets.