

Why you should come to **KENT**

ONTARIO CANADA



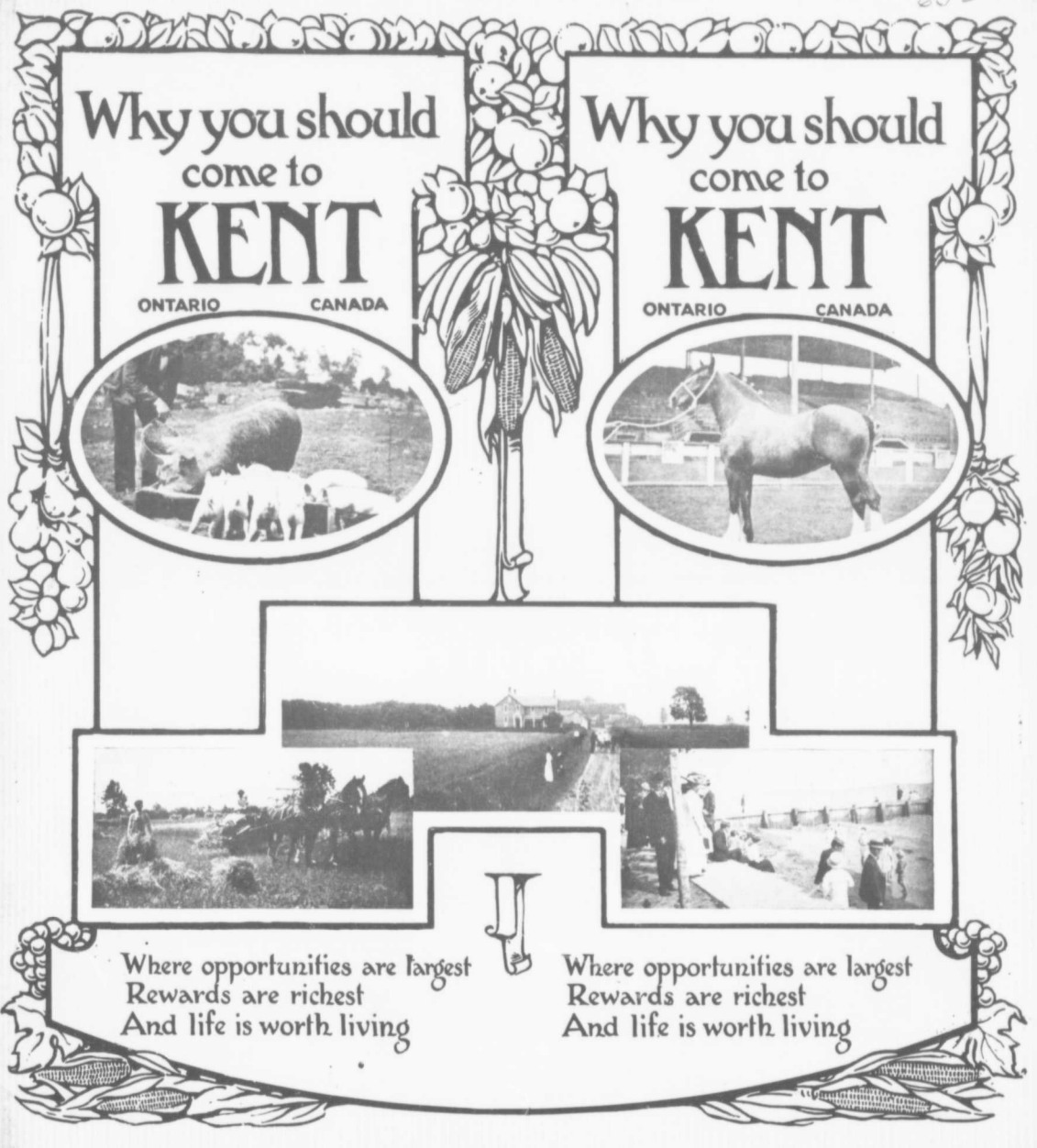
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Where opportunities are largest
Rewards are richest
And life is worth living

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FOREWORD

Widely advertised for many years Western Canada has hitherto had the first call upon the intending immigrant. Yet, on the very pathway travelled by the great tide of newcomers from the United Kingdom and the United States, is a section of rich farming country which offers larger and more varied opportunities than the West, together with conveniences and comforts that in a country entirely new are quite impossible. Sunny Southwestern Ontario—the most southerly portion of Canada—merits investigation. To the newcomer, whatever his ultimate destination, we proffer the advice:

SEE KENT COUNTY FIRST



A Duck Hunters' Paradise.

Canadian Currency—The standard of Canadian currency is the dollar (\$) comprising 100 cents. The value of the dollar in British currency is about 4s 2d; of the cent, $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Chances for Farm Hands—Good wages and fair and honorable treatment await industrious men who came to work on Kent farms. Either single men or married men

with families are welcome; for the latter in many cases separate cottages are provided. Here is an excellent opportunity for men without capital to pay their way while familiarizing themselves with methods and opportunities on Kent farms. Many wealthy Kent farmers began here as farm hands.

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WHEN YOU COME TO CANADA

COME TO KENT

—THE HOME OF OPPORTUNITY—

Canada is full of opportunities for the aspiring, for the ambitious, for all, both young and old, who are willing to work and desirous of securing a just and ample reward for their labor with hand and brain.

Alike from the United Kingdom and the United States, men and women are flocking to Canada, the Land of Opportunity.

When you come to Canada, seeking opportunities, come to Kent, where opportunities are greatest, and where a people largely of your own race, descended from the old British stocks and speaking the English language, are ready to heartily welcome their kith and kin, whether from beyond the boundary or beyond the Atlantic.

Alike for the farmer, the manufacturer, and the workingman, this county offers exceptional advantages, which this booklet will fully explain.

The fertile soil of Kent County, Ontario, produces to the best advantage those farm crops which are common to all Canada. The southerly latitude, favorable climate and long season of warmth and sunshine, enable Kent County to produce in abund-

ance many crops which cannot be grown elsewhere in Canada. The farmer who looks forward to mixed farming, or the man whose object is that intensive farming which secures the largest possible returns from each acre, will find here exceptional opportunities.

To the manufacturer, Kent County offers cheap power, excellent transportation facilities, both by rail and water, all the raw materials which the farm can produce, and in a prosperous and populous county an immediate market for many manufactured products.

The newcomer to Canada who comes to Kent County faces few, if any, hardships. He steps into a country already cleared, settled and civilized, with churches, schools, railways, friendly neighbors of his own race, markets easy of access, quick and ready means of communication, and every advantage that goes to make life worth living. Practically the only difference between his own country and the County of Kent rests in the larger opportunities which Kent County offers.

These opportunities are fully dealt with in the ensuing pages. This booklet, issued by the Kent Publicity and Improvement Association, under the supervision of the Ontario Government, aims to give the actual facts and the most complete information possible for the intending settler. If further information be desired, you have only to write; all enquiries will be promptly and carefully answered.



What the History of Kent Means to the New Settler.

Kent County was first settled about the year 1785—over a century and a quarter ago. Originally including the entire territory of Sunny Southwestern Ontario, the Western District received its first corporate existence in 1792, the year of Upper Canada's first Parliament. In 1795 the townsite of the present city of Chatham was surveyed. In 1803 Lord Selkirk established at Baldoon, near what is now the thriving town of Wallaceburg, his famous Scotch settlement.

In the War of 1812, foraging parties from Detroit ravaged the scattered settlements, giving to the prosperity of this district its first set-back. Later, in the autumn of 1813, occurred the disastrous retreat from Malden, when Tecumseh, ally of the British and probably the most celebrated Indian of all history, fell fighting at Moraviantown, on the Thames. A few years ago a commemorative boulder was erected to mark the battlefield.

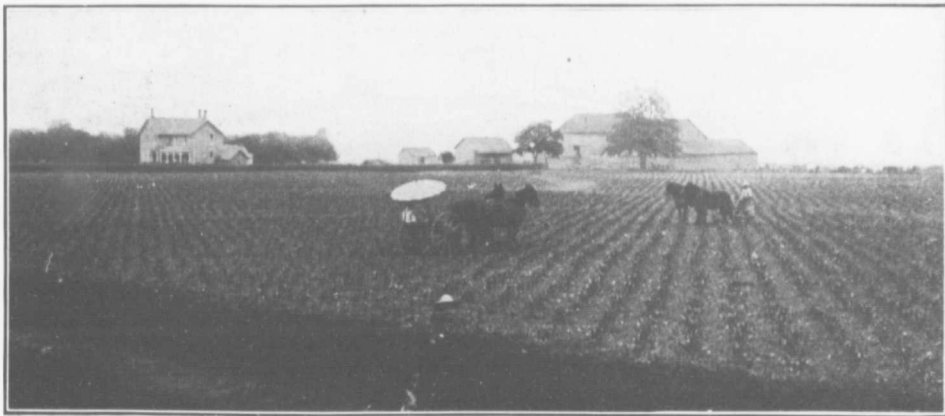
In the ensuing century of peace, Kent's history has been one of steady progress and prosperity. In 1850 municipal powers were given, not merely to the county, but to the component townships. Population increased, new farming possibilities were discovered, the little hamlets of earlier years grew into thriving towns and villages, the trading post at Chatham became an important commercial centre. The first railroad, built in 1857, gave a tremendous stimulus to Kent's development.

To the incoming settler, these commonplace facts from Kent's history are significant. The newcomer



Raising Gunboat Sunk in 1812.

is not venturing into any raw, rough country where hardships await him; the way has been cleared by many generations of courageous pioneers. Kent's fertility has been proven, and a part at least of its opportunities are definitely known. The man who brings his money, his brains and his best energies to Kent is not speculating in uncertainties; he is investing in a security whose value one hundred and twenty-five years of history have fully proven.



Kent's Fertility Has been Proven.

What Nature Has Bestowed Upon the Farmers of Kent.

Sunny Southwestern Ontario is the most southerly part of Canada. It is further south than the celebrated Niagara district; it is seven hundred miles further south than the English Kent. A parallel drawn through the city of Chatham would pass also through Southern France. Latitude gives Kent a position singularly favorable.

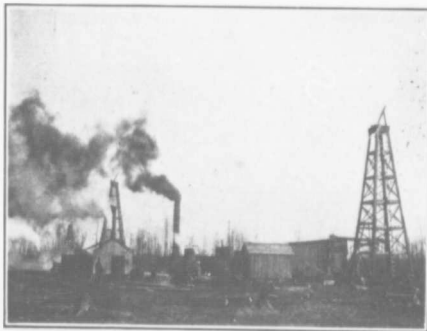
To the south lies Lake Erie. To the north west is Lake St. Clair; to the north, with no great distance intervening, is Lake Huron. These great bodies of water serve to modify the climate. Kent experiences neither the extreme cold of a northern winter, nor the extreme heat of a southern summer. The temperature is mild; the snowfall in winter is never heavy; the summers are neither too wet nor too dry.

The surface of Kent is almost level, broken only by two large streams, the Sydenham and the Thames, which provide natural drainage and deep water navigation; and by the Ridge along the Lake Erie shore. Practically every square inch of its 580,000 acres is arable land—partly clay loam, with gravelly loam and sandy loam along Lake Erie, and considerable sandy and gravelly loam in the northeast portions of the county.

KENT'S FISHERIES ARE IMPORTANT.

Not merely do the Great Lakes which mark the northwestern and southern boundaries of the county serve to modify its climate, but they provide a source of employment and revenue for many residents of Kent. The waters of Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair, as well as the Thames and Sydenham rivers, abound in fish. Whitefish, perch, herring and pickerel are caught in large quantities in the fishing season, and bring good prices, not merely in the markets of the Ontario cities, but in Buffalo and New York. One fisherman at Rondeau this spring estimated the value of his first day's catch of white-

fish at \$1000, and expected to do still better before the season closed.



Oil Wells in Tilbury East.

PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS.

Petroleum and natural gas are practically the only mineral products of Kent. The Bothwell oil field was discovered in the '60's, and has still, after half a century, a number of wells steadily producing. A few years ago oil was found in Raleigh township, and later still more extensive discoveries were made in Tilbury East and Romney, these fields being for some time the centre of great activity.

In recent years the production of petroleum in these districts has declined. Simultaneously, however, the Tilbury East field has developed an immense production of natural gas, and is now rated by official government reports as the largest and most important gas field in Ontario.

WHAT NATURAL GAS MEANS TO KENT.

This means more to the people of Kent than the immediate revenue involved. Natural gas has been piped from Tilbury East to Chatham, and to practically every town in Kent, providing the cheapest illuminant, the cheapest fuel for heating and cooking, and the cheapest source of power for manufacturing. In the rural sections of Kent, farmers along the pipe lines secure natural gas at minimum rates. Several farmers own gas wells.

Large areas in Kent have never been prospected for either gas or oil, and there is good reason to believe that the supply is not confined to the fields now producing, but that discoveries may ultimately be made in other parts of the county.



Fishing Shanties in Romney

Farming is the Corner Stone of Kent County's Prosperity.

Farming is, however, the corner stone of Kent County's prosperity. It is as a farming county that Kent makes its strongest appeal to the intending settler.

Farming in Kent is not mere grain farming. It is mixed farming in the widest sense of the words. Rotation of crops is scientifically practiced. The experience of a century and a quarter has convincingly proven that whatever the rest of Canada can produce, Kent County can produce in equal or more abundant yield. Kent County today probably produces a wider variety of crops than any other portion of Canada, nor have the possibilities of introducing new crops been by any means exhausted.

of close proximity to the consuming markets. His better shipping facilities result in lower freight charges, and in higher net prices for his grain. He runs no risk of delay in shipments or of loss from lack of storage facilities.

FODDER CROPS.

From marsh lands at the mouth of the Thames Bruce F. Bradley, without cultivation of any kind, harvested crops of hay worth from \$15 to \$20 an acre. Large areas of such lands, after being drained, bring returns from other crops ten times as large. This one instance forms an index to the sort of fod-



Kent Is An Ideal District for Cattle Raising.

Every farm in Kent has its acreage of wheat and oats, barley, possibly millet and rye; its fields of hay, clover, alfalfa and luxuriant corn; its orchard; its live stock—horses, cattle, hogs and sometimes sheep—and its poultry. Along these lines men have successfully farmed for generations.

GRAIN CROPS.

Wheat, oats, barley and other grains are all grown, and all yield abundantly. The average yield of grain to the acre in Kent is larger than in the great grain-growing provinces of the Canadian West.

Moreover, the farmer in Kent has the advantage

der crops produced from Kent soil. Timothy and clover hay give large yields. Alfalfa yields three and occasionally four crops in a single year. Corn for fodder purposes is one of Kent's foremost crops.

The growth of timothy and clover seed is a profitable side line with many farmers.

CATTLE.

Two important factors make Kent an ideal district for cattle raising. The first is the short winter, enabling the animals to spend practically eight months of the year in pasture. The second is the abundant nature of the fodder crops, reducing the

cost of winter feeding to a figure comparatively low. Farmers who have studied this subject are finding it more profitable to market their crops in the form of cattle, especially as the live stock industry helps to renew the farms.

Kent cattle have won first prizes in many stock shows, though the industry has by no means reached the maximum of its possibilities.

DAIRY FARMING.

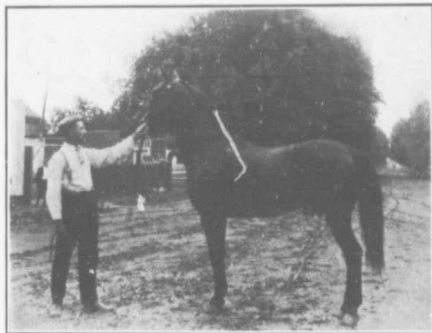
The importance of dairy farming in Kent is indicated by the two successful creameries conducted at Chatham, one at Bothwell, one near Dresden, and one recently established at Thamesville. These afford a ready market for the farmers' cream. For those farmers who prefer to make their own butter, labor saving devices have reduced the incidental work to a minimum, and there is a constant market all the year round for good butter at excellent prices.

The skim milk provides an important feed for hogs and other stock.

Yet dairying has not reached the development of which it is capable in Kent, where there is an abundance of excellent pasture to be had.

HORSES.

Many farmers find horse raising a profitable branch of agriculture. Careful study of the subject of breeding, and the importation of thoroughbred animals, has resulted in a marked improvement in the horses throughout the county. Kent horses enjoy a high reputation in all parts of Canada. Buy-



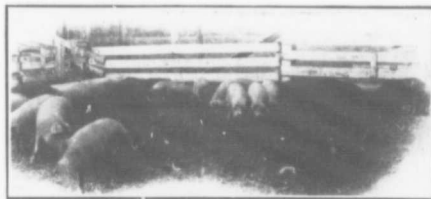
Kent Horses Enjoy a High Reputation.

ers from Toronto, Montreal and other eastern markets regularly visit Chatham and other points in the county while on their purchasing trips; and Kent horses find a ready market in the Canadian West, where there is a steady and increasing demand for animals of all kinds.

The spring horse fairs, held in various parts of the county, afford in their liberal patronage some indication of the popularity of horse raising among the farmers.

HOGS.

The Kent corn fed hog is celebrated throughout the Dominion. With his fertile land producing generous crops of corn, the Kent farmer can raise hogs in competition even with the great corn-growing districts of the United States. Fattened on home grown corn, the Kent hogs command good prices, and buyers at practically all the large shipping cen-



Kent Corn-fed Hogs are Celebrated.

tres of the county are eager to secure them for shipment to the eastern markets. A large abattoir and packing plant, recently established at Chatham, also affords a good market.

The hog raising industry is one of the most important in Kent, and brings large returns to the farmers every year. Hogs shown by Ed. Brien, of Howard, at the Chicago Stock Show, won first prizes in international competition.

SHEEP.

Kent County sheep have won many prizes. Owing to the development of specialized farming and the demand for land for the purpose of raising crops, the returns from which run into the hundreds of dollars to the acre, sheep raising is not so general in Kent as in counties where the possibilities of farming are not so numerous and varied. The excellence of the Kent flocks is, however, indicated by the large number of prizes secured.

Climatic Conditions Guar- antee Many Monopolies to Kent Farmers.

The southerly latitude and favorable climatic conditions give Kent the longest growing and ripening season in Ontario. Records show that in the Niagara district there is a growing season of 202 days; in Lambton county 204 days; in Kent the season is 210 days. The lengthy growing and ripening season, the warm climate, the favorable latitude, make possible the growing in Kent County of many crops which other parts of Canada cannot produce. These monopolies are guaranteed to Sunny South-western Ontario by Nature herself. These crops which we grow exclusively, the rest of Canada, unable to grow, must buy from us. Many other crops which Kent does not produce exclusively, Kent produces several weeks earlier than other parts of Canada.

RED CHEEKED KENT PEACHES.

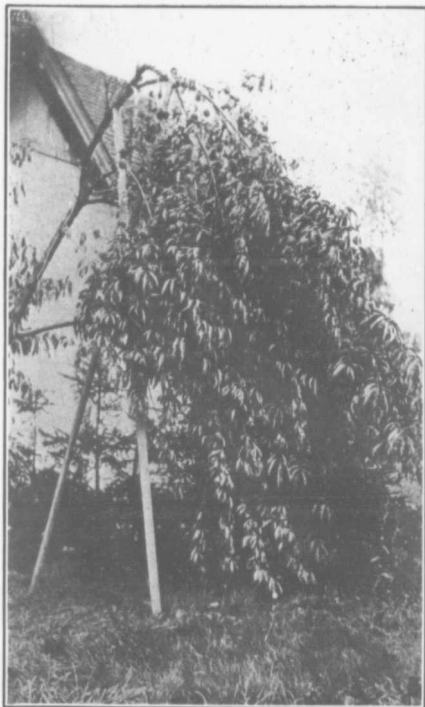
Along the north shore of Lake Erie, from east to west, runs the famous Ridge—a height of land that has greatly influenced specialized farming in Kent. North and south of the Ridge district, the slopes for a distance of several miles provide the famous gravelly loam or "peach sand," without which peaches cannot be grown to the best advantage. The near proximity of a broad expanse of water helps to ward off untimely frost, and protect the opening buds.

Along the Ridge district, from Wheatley on the extreme west, through Cedar Springs, Blenheim and still further east, this light dry soil produces peaches fully the equal of any grown in Canada. The industry is comparatively new, and for this reason the very best peach land in Canada can be here secured more cheaply than anywhere else; but peach growing has been carried on for a sufficient length of time to prove beyond challenge that the red cheeked Kent peaches are equal to any on the market, and superior to most. Peach growers along Lake Erie are making good money, and prices of peach land are steadily advancing.

The Ridge does not represent the limits of peach growing in Kent. Peaches have been successfully produced in all parts of the county. But along the Ridge are found the conditions most favorable.

LARGE POSSIBILITIES IN SMALL FRUITS.

Wherever peaches grow, all other fruits grow. In all parts of Kent County, small fruits—strawberries, raspberries, currants, gooseberries, lawton-berries—are grown successfully and yield abundant crops. The early season enables the Kent growers to



Bending Beneath the Weight of Red Cheeked Kent Peaches

capture the trade while prices are still good, and consequently the profits are larger than where the season is late.

From Wheatley on the south, to Bothwell on the north, small fruits are successfully grown, and find in the populous towns and cities of Ontario a ready market.

Cherries, plums, pears, quinces, apricots and other fruits are all successfully grown, rendering this section a very desirable one for farmers who wish to carry on fruit-growing in all its branches.

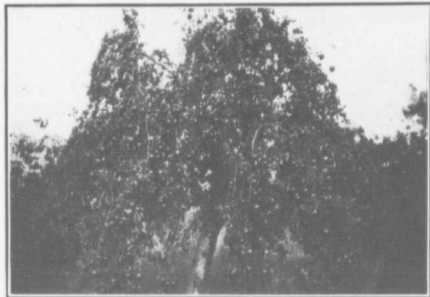
OPPORTUNITIES IN APPLE ORCHARDS.

Apple growing on modern lines is still in its infancy. The day of the old, carelessly kept apple orchard—often the best acre in the farm—is gradually passing, to make way for scientific orcharding. Experience has proven that all the leading varieties

of winter apples—Spies, Kings, Greenings, Russets, Baldwins, McIntosh and many others—are advantageously grown here. Immense possibilities lie in the future development of apple-growing along modern and scientific lines.

The apple industry yields its largest profits to those farmers who give it the closest attention. Careful picking, grading and packing form the key to big returns.

In addition to a ready market in Ontario cities,



Opportunities in Apple Orchards.

where the demand for apples always exceeds the available supply, there is a large and growing trade with the Canadian West; while every year the export trade is opening up larger possibilities.

A growing season two weeks earlier than that of any other part of Canada gives Sunny Southwestern Ontario an exceptional advantage in the raising of early apples. The ability of Kent growers to place their product upon the markets of the West well in advance of all competitors should result in a marked development in this branch of the apple growing industry in the course of the next few years. The development of facilities for the co-operative handling of this and other farm products will undoubtedly secure for the growers even larger returns.

FORTUNES IN EARLY TOMATOES.

Conditions in Kent are singularly favorable to the early tomato industry, which offers immense possibilities.

Started in hothouses about March 1, the tomatoes are transplanted in May, as soon as all danger from frosts is past, to the open fields, where they yield their first crop about the end of June, in time to command the high price of \$2.50 for an 11 quart basket. This price grades down to \$1.50 later in the season.

Returns from early tomato growing have been reported as high as \$1000 an acre, though \$800 to \$900 is a more usual figure.

For late field tomatoes, grown for canning purposes, or sold in the local markets, the returns range from \$100 to \$150 an acre.

PROFITS IN EARLY POTATOES.

Potatoes have always been one of the staple crops in Kent, and the supply never seems quite equal to the demand.

Early potato growers, especially in the vicinity of Blenheim and Cedar Springs, are making good profits from this branch of the industry. Neil Campbell, of Blenheim, reports in 1912 a crop of from 100 to 125 bags to the acre, which sold at \$1.75 a bag. This is only a little better than the average.

TOBACCO AS A MORTGAGE LIFTER.

The same conditions which make peach growing



Tobacco a Mortgage Lifter.

in Kent both possible and profitable have stimulated tobacco growing. Tobacco is produced in practically all parts of the county; in Southern Kent it is one of the leading crops, and a large acreage is planted every year, Blenheim and Chatham being the leading shipping centres. The variety chiefly grown is Burley. The average yield on good ground and with good care is from 1500 to 2000 pounds to the acre, with a usual price of 10c to 11c a pound. The yield sometimes goes as high as 2500 pounds to the acre, and the price in a few cases reaches 12½c to 16c a pound.

In 1912 165 car loads were shipped from Blenheim, running 14 tons to the car, which, at a trifle over 10 cents a pound, meant a total of nearly \$50,000 distributed among the farmers of this one section.

Wm. Snow, of Blenheim, in 1910, sold \$9000 worth of tobacco off 33 acres.

Sim. and Jas. Burke, of Blenheim, sold \$3600 worth of tobacco off 10 acres.

WHERE CORN GROWS TO MATURITY.

Throughout all Ontario, corn is grown for en-



Corn Grows to Maturity.

silage purposes, but it is only in this sunny southern corner of the province that corn grows to maturity. The rich clay lands of Tilbury East, Raleigh, Dover, Chatham and Harwich townships, lead in corn production, though in all parts of the county it is a successful crop.

Not merely does the Kent farmer secure a larger yield of fodder corn to the acre than is produced in less favored localities, but to the value of the fodder he is able to add the value of the matured grain. Corn yields 81.7 bushels to the acre in Kent, commanding a price of from 50 to 60 cents per bushel. This means an approximate return of \$45 to the acre.

This is for the ordinary grain. Experiments have shown that seed corn grown in Kent is superior to that produced in the United States, from which the farmers of Ontario for many years drew their entire supply of seed corn. The result is that, ultimately, Sunny Southwestern Ontario must supply all the seed corn required for the remainder of Canada, where corn does not grow to maturity but is valued for ensilage purposes. As good seed corn commands a price of \$1.25 to \$2 a bushel, the profits from this line of farming are obvious.

Kent corn has repeatedly taken first prizes in

competition with the entire corn growing district of Ontario.

HALF OF ONTARIO'S BEAN CROP.

The entire bean crop of Ontario in 1912 amounted to 1,182,132 bushels. Of this, 573,228 bushels, or nearly 50 per cent., were grown within the limits of Kent County. Very nearly all the Ontario bean crop is grown within a radius of 100 miles of Chatham city.

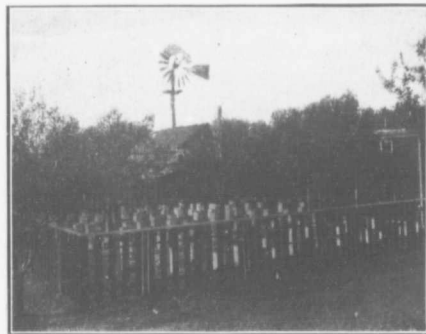
Beans demand a light, dry, well drained soil and a southerly latitude. The leading bean growing districts of the county are the townships of Harwich, Howard and Orford. One dealer near Blenheim, last year shipped 125 car loads of beans. The average yield is from 20 to 25 bushels to the acre, though sometimes as high as 57 bushels has been recorded, and the price per bushel runs from \$1.50 to \$2.

Under the auspices of the Ontario Bean Growers' Association, which has its headquarters in this county, and with the assistance of the Ontario Department of Agriculture, experimental plots are conducted in seed, testing, fertilizing, cultivating, and other branches of bean growing. It is expected that an increased yield per acre will be the ultimate result of these experiments.

The superior quality of Kent beans is recognized throughout Canada.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR APIARISTS.

Largely owing to the diversified opportunities of the county, honey production in Kent has not received the attention it merits. Bee-keeping is usual-



Honey Means Money.

ly combined with mixed farming, poultry raising, gardening or fruit growing. As a specialty, however, intelligently followed, it will produce returns equal to any other line.

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.

MARKET GARDENING.

The early season—two weeks in advance of the greater part of Canada—will ultimately enable Kent County to supply early vegetables for all parts of Ontario. For years past many small farmers have made good money raising vegetables for sale on local markets. The development of co-operative methods of handling the crop will stimulate this branch of farming.

Celery raising is successfully carried on in many places, and Kent celery is noted as at once crisp and tender. Melons of all kinds are successfully produced.

Some farmers make good money growing sweet corn for the canneries, the crop producing a valuable by-product in the shape of fodder.



A Field of Money Making Cabbages.

FLAX GROWING IN KENT.

The importance of the flax growing industry in Kent is shown by the existence of flax mills at Wal-



Early Vegetables for All Parts of Ontario.

laceburg, Dresden and Tilbury. The crop is a profitable one for many Kent farmers, who find a ready market practically at their doors.

BIG RETURNS FROM FOXES.

Fox farming, an industry which in recent years has sprung into sudden prominence, yields large profits. There are a number of fox farms in Kent, the best known being located near Thamesville, Bothwell and Ridgetown. Rucker & Hubbell, of Thamesville, in 1913, raised eight puppies from two pair. Two of these, fine females, brought \$12,000. The growing scarcity of wild fur bearing animals ensures the future of this industry, the demand for foxes for breeding purposes alone so far exceeding the supply.

Kent Farmers Find it Easy to Take Their Crops to Market

Next to a fertile soil and a favorable climate, convenience to markets is of vital importance. In Kent County, the farmer finds his markets practically at his own door. Within short distance and easy haul of the large eastern cities, he finds buyers for his farm products in all the commercial centres of the county.

RAILWAY FACILITIES.

Five trunk lines—the Grand Trunk, Canadian Pacific, Wabash, Michigan Central and Pere Marquette—place Kent in close touch with Detroit, Chicago, and other large American cities on the west, and with Toronto, Montreal, Buffalo, New York and the Atlantic seaboard. North and south, the trunk

lines are linked together by the Pere Marquette, running from Rondeau harbor to Sarnia, and the Chatham, Wallaceburg & Lake Erie electric railway, important extensions to which will be made in the near future. Every few miles throughout the county are convenient freight sidings and elevators, to facilitate shipments of farm produce.

The Western Ontario branch of the Canadian Northern railway, and the radial lines in connection with the Ontario Hydro Electric system, will also be extended through Kent and will serve the needs of this county. Within a few years we may look for the entire county to be served by a network of radial lines, giving the farmer easy access to any point.

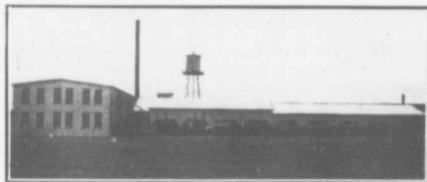
DEEP WATER NAVIGATION.

The Thames and Sydenham rivers, the former navigable as far as Chatham, the latter navigable to Dresden, provide deep water communication for the northern part of the county. To the south, on Lake Erie, are Rondeau harbor, one of the finest ports on the north shore, and Wheatley harbor, recently completed. Lake Erie provides a waterway to ports up and down the lake, including the large American cities on the southern shore.

Through Rondeau harbor, between which city and Cleveland there is a regular service, many car loads of coal are delivered every day. Steps are being taken to provide a freight boat service between Chatham and Port Arthur, the gateway to the Canadian West; while Wallaceburg, on the Sydenham river, already has a regular service.

LOCAL MARKETS.

The local markets take a large share of farm produce at good prices. Chatham has the best public market in Western Ontario, and is liberally patronized by farmers from the vicinity.



Canning Factories are Numerous.

CANNING FACTORIES.

In a county producing such a wide variety of fruit and vegetable crops, canning factories are naturally numerous. Canneries are now located at Chatham, Wallaceburg, Dresden, Ridgetown, Blenheim, Tilbury, Merlin, Highgate and Thamesville, providing a ready market for fruits and vegetables of many kinds. Apple evaporating plants are in operation at Chatham, Dresden, Wallaceburg and Bothwell.

Farm Life In Kent County is Worth Living.

The intelligent man who seeks a new home for himself and his family is not satisfied with merely the promise of large profits and easy facilities for marketing his crops. He demands also the social comforts, the modern advantages, which make life pleasant and worth the living.

Every social advantage that a civilized country has to offer, Kent possesses.



Kent Schools are Leaders.

CHURCHES.

Practically every leading religious denomination is represented among the churches of Kent County. Not merely are there places of worship in the various centres of population, but the rural sections are also well served. Among Kent's rural churches are some of the finest religious edifices in Ontario.

KENT SCHOOLS ARE LEADERS.

For many years the public schools of Kent have led in progressive educational ideas. Kent County was the first in Ontario to institute school libraries along modern lines; among the first to take up continuation class work, giving the rural pupil higher education right at home; among the first to establish school gardens, school corn fairs and other progressive methods of teaching scientific agriculture to country children. In many parts of the county the school gardens serve the useful purpose of local experimental farms where experiments are made that prove of interest and benefit, not merely to the students, but to older people. The schools of Kent are social centres, affording meeting places for the farmers' clubs, debating societies and other organizations.

The needs of higher education are served by the Collegiate Institutes at Chatham and Ridgetown, the Ursuline College and the Canada Business College at Chatham, and the continuation classes in practically every town, village and large rural school.

FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS ARE NUMEROUS.

Farmers' Clubs in Kent are steadily growing in number and exert a powerful influence, not merely in encouraging the exchange of new ideas on scientific farming, but in bringing together the progressive minds of the community. The importance of the Farmers' Club movement may be judged from the fact that a Kent County Federation of Farmers' Clubs is now being formed.

The East and West Kent Farmers' Institutes are doing a useful work in encouraging the latest ideas in farming, and securing experts to deliver addresses on farm problems. The Women's Institutes in connection with these organizations, afford the women on the farm a wider range of activities.

Agricultural societies facilitate the holding of spring and fall fairs in practically every part of the county. Fall fairs are held annually at Chatham, Dresden, Thamesville, Blenheim, Wallaceburg, Highgate, Merlin, Wheatley and Ridgetown. The Moraviantown (Indian) fair, held every year on the Moraviantown reserve, is a unique event.

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT ASSISTS.

The Ontario Government, desirous of encouraging scientific and intelligent farming, has established at Chatham an office with experts in charge who are glad at all times to furnish advice and information on farm topics, and to assist in valuable experiments on Kent County farms.

FREE MAIL DELIVERY.

Kent County is well supplied with post offices, and the rural mail service is excellent. Along many of the mail routes, rural free delivery has been established. Under this system, the farmers on a mail route can, on providing the necessary boxes, have their mail delivered and collected every day, practically at the front door. The convenience is one much appreciated, particularly in the busy season.

RURAL TELEPHONE SERVICE.

Not merely does the Kent farmer have his mail delivered to his door, but in many parts of the county he can, without stirring from his own house, talk to his neighbors for miles around or to business men in the nearest market town. The rural telephone is now in widespread use, and has proven a great convenience to the farming community. In some cases farmers themselves own the rural lines, the cost of construction and maintenance being small compared with the great convenience. It is only a question of time before the entire county will be served.

POPULAR RESORTS.

Though the Kent farmer is busy, he is not too busy to enjoy life. The splendid railway and water way facilities provide many and varied excursion trips as a means of summer enjoyment. Excursions at low rates are frequently conducted to Toronto, Niagara Falls, Detroit, and other points of interest.

Walpole Island, on the River St. Clair, with its Indian reserve, is a favorite destination.

Within the limits of Kent County are pleasant spots where people can secure recreation and enjoyment just as readily as at greater distance. Erie Beach and Erieau are two of the popular resorts on Lake Erie, much frequented by summer cottagers. Here bathing, boating and angling are among the popular recreations, and many flock to enjoy the refreshing lake breezes.

Rondeau Provincial Park, close to Erieau, is one of the few surviving stretches of the primitive forest which at one time covered all Southwestern Ontario. Trees centuries old, wild flowers, deer and other game, render this an interesting spot. In recent years the undergrowth has been cleared to some extent, which, while not detracting from the picturesqueness of the park, renders it easier of access.

Mitchell's Bay, on Lake St. Clair, is in the autumn a duck-hunter's paradise, and at all times a favorite resort for anglers. The marshes of Rondeau are also, in the fall, a popular duck-hunting ground.

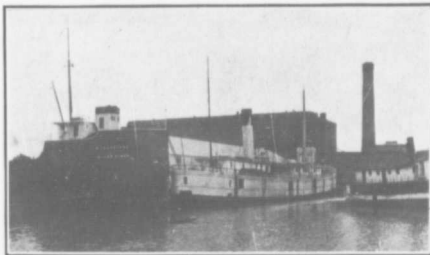


Morning Catch on Lake Erie.

WHAT NATURE GUARANTEES.

So varied are the possible crops that the Kent farmer cannot lose even in a "bad year." Climatic conditions are so favorable that the "bad year" never actually comes. The wide variety of crops planted is an assurance that if the farmer loses on one, he more than makes up his loss on another. Nature guarantees the farmer of Kent against all danger of a total crop failure. He is not compelled by climatic conditions to pin his faith to a single crop, and hazard his entire future on its success or failure.

MUNICIPALITIES OF KENT



Wallaceburg is a Recognized Lake Port.

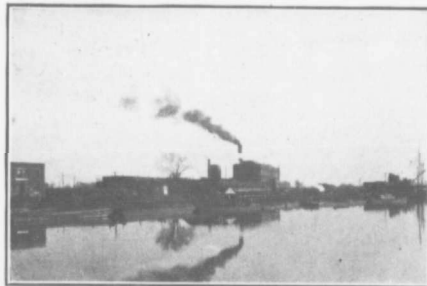
WALLACEBURG

Wallaceburg, the largest town in Kent, offers exceptional advantages to manufacturers.

Chief among these are its unsurpassed shipping facilities by land and water. The channel is sufficiently deep for the largest lake craft. The town is a recognized lake port, vessels of the Mutual and Northern Navigation lines calling regularly.

An unlimited supply of natural gas, offered to manufacturers at low rates, is another great attraction.

Wallaceburg has the largest beet sugar factory in the Dominion of Canada, and the large Sydenham



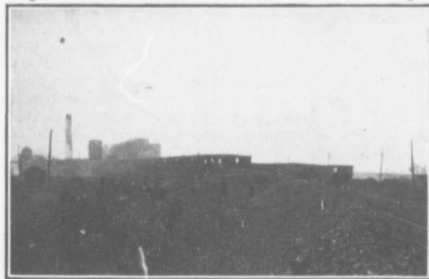
Canada's Largest Sugar Factory.



Deep Enough for the Largest Lake Craft.

Glass factory. These two industries, alone, pay out in wages, annually over \$500,000.

Among other leading industries are the large brass factory, a foundry, a large shipyard, Empire



When the Beet Campaign Is On.

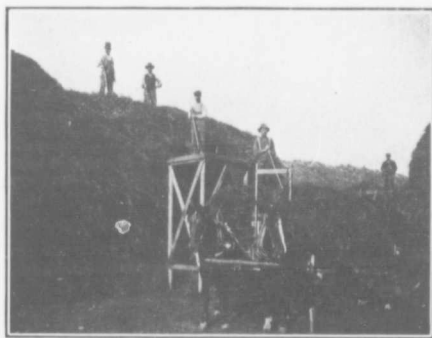
oil refinery, stave and hoop mill, knitting factory, yarn factory, evaporator, canning factory, two flax mills, brick and tile yards, and other important concerns.

Attractive inducements are offered to industries, and some excellent sites for prospective manufacturing concerns are available. The surrounding country is very productive with the very best soil.

Wallaceburg is an attractive residential location. It possesses churches of all denominations; excellent school accommodation and equipment, both public and separate; paved streets, electric lighting and telephone service. Waterworks service is being extended throughout the town at a cost of \$130,000.

CHATHAM TOWNSHIP

Chatham is first in population and second in point of area among the townships of Kent. Situated north of the River Thames, it is one of the four town-



Splendid Yields of Flax.

ships that corner on the large commercial centre, the city of Chatham. Wallaceburg and Dresden, toward the northwestern end of the township, also provide markets and shipping centres for its products.

Railway facilities are excellent. The Pere Marquette railway runs diagonally across the township, while the Canadian Pacific crosses the southern portion. The Chatham, Wallaceburg & Lake Erie line is just beyond the western boundary. Hence, no part of the township is far from a shipping centre.

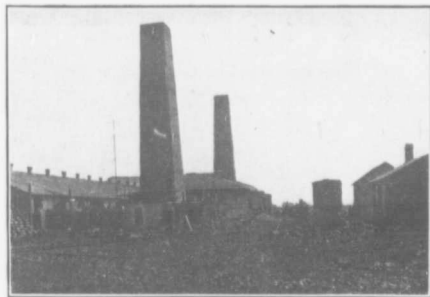
The soil consists of an alluvial clay loam overlaid in some places with sandy loam. This land, now nearly all under cultivation, is nevertheless almost virgin soil. Our fathers still living see their sons growing splendid crops of oats, wheat, barley, corn, flax, beans, alfalfa, tobacco, potatoes and sugar beets where they in their own time, cut down the gigantic oaks, elms, black ash, beech and maple of the primeval forest.

Mixed farming has thus far taken the lead, although some have engaged extensively in the breeding of heavy horses, and in beef and pork production. Dairying and fruit growing have not as yet reached the proportions they ultimately must in a township where corn and alfalfa are grown so luxuriantly.

Chatham and Dresden, close at hand, have both large canning factories, and vegetables are extensively grown in the vicinity of these centres. Yet there is urgent need of greater production along these lines, the capacity of the canneries far exceeding the supply.

No land is more easily drained than that of Chatham township. The large creeks afford excellent natural outlets and reduce the expense of drainage to a very low figure. Farmers throughout the township are fully alive to the benefit of tile drainage, which is shown by the tiling machines owned and operated by companies of farmers.

The land values are at present for unimproved land from \$60 to \$70 per acre, and for farms im-



Tile Plant in Romney.

proved with tile and buildings from \$80 to \$100 per acre. These comparatively low prices are, however, rapidly advancing.

ROMNEY TOWNSHIP

Romney, the most southerly township of Kent, comprises about 27,000 acres. With a coast line on Lake Erie of 12 miles, very little of the township being more than two miles inland, climatic conditions, as a result of this and the southerly latitude, are very favorable, ensuring an extra week of growing weather. The soil varies from sand and gravel soil near the lake to a rich black loam further inland, the loam being admirably adapted to the growing of corn, wheat, oats, barley, timothy, clover and similar crops, while the lighter soil near the lake is especially suitable for peaches, small fruits, early vegetables and tobacco.

Not the least of the advantages of this favored

township is its fishing industry, which, with an annual catch ranging in value from \$60,000 to \$80,000, furnishes employment to a large number of men. The government has just completed, opposite Wheatley, a pier with a breakwater to protect shipping, which is practically open the entire year.

In addition to facilities for water shipment, the Pere Marquette railway traverses the township from end to end, as does the Talbot road, the international highway for automobiles.

Wheatley, the business centre of the township, with its natural gas, many miles of cement walks, continuous electric lighting and telephone service, two chartered banks, good public and continuation schools, excellent stores and handsome residences, reflects the wealth and fertility of the surrounding country. Coatsworth and Renwick are prosperous hamlets, the former boasting the largest brick plant in Western Ontario, with a capacity of 15,000 tile and 35,000 brick per day.

BLENHEIM

Blenheim, on the far-famed Ridge, with uninterrupted water and air drainage, and overlooking Lake Erie and Rondeau, is not only the beauty spot of the county, but is the home of a thrifty and progressive population which ministers to the requirements of a large, fertile and wealthy farming district.

The town is well equipped with business establishments of every description, with busy wholesale houses handling beans, tobacco, wheat, flour, and other produce. Its clean and shady residential streets are lined with comfortable homes, reached by substantial stone walks, heated by natural gas



Farmers Around Blenheim Co-operate.

and lighted by the municipal electric lighting plant. Blenheim claims, in addition, the unique honor of being a town without a debt, and its business record is almost entirely free from financial embarrassment.

Easy of access from all directions, Blenheim is the headquarters of nature lovers who desire to visit

the famous Point aux Pins park, of sportsmen bound for Rondeau bay, and of tourists and sailors en route to Erieau and its notable summer resort.

The Blenheim district was, in a state of nature, the home of a larger variety of vegetable growth than any other part of Canada. This reputation it still



Blenheim Town Hall.

maintains the variety of profitable crops being unparalleled. Fruits of all kinds, cereals, especially corn and beans, vegetables of every variety, including the sugar beet and tobacco—the highest grades of smoking, chewing and snuff varieties—are produced from a soil so fertile that it “needs only to be tickled with a plow to bring forth abundantly.”

The climate doubles the fertility of the soil. Nearly 700 miles further south than the English Kent, fully 50 miles further south than Grimsby, the centre of the celebrated Niagara fruit district, the Blenheim district is most favorably situated. The Ridge soil is somewhat similar to the peach land of Niagara and the early tomato land around Leamington, but is richer than either. The mild and salubrious air, temperate at all times, amply supplied with moisture from Lake Erie, to the south, makes this most southerly district of British North America a spot where a home is greatly to be desired.

For those desiring a residence where a small farm may be a constant source of income, where the delights of a southern home are combined with the attractions of the temperate zone, Blenheim has a hearty welcome.

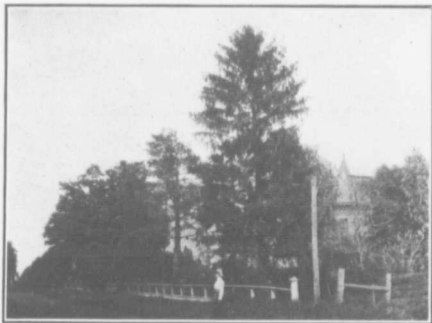
HARWICH TOWNSHIP

Largest in point of area among the townships of Kent, and second in point of population, Harwich enjoys a very favorable situation. It stretches 17 miles from north to south, lying between the navigable waters of the River Thames and Lake Erie, and intersected by the waters of Rondeau, where

vessels drawing 18 feet of water can be safely harbored. The township is 10 miles in width, mostly level. The soil is clay and sandy loam, free from stone except for a gravel ridge across the centre, and well drained by McGregor's creek and other natural and artificial watercourses.

Corn, beans and tobacco are grown abundantly. Wheat, oats, barley, potatoes and hay are all successfully raised, as are also all kinds of fruit that can be grown outside the tropics. Market gardening and poultry raising yield excellent returns, while many farmers specialize successfully on cattle, horse and hog raising. Artesian wells furnish an abundant supply of pure water. Cottages are provided for many of the farm hands, and openings are plentiful for good men and women, the highest wages prevailing. Of the population, 95 per cent. are of English, Scotch or Irish descent.

Shipping facilities are unexcelled. Five lines of railway run east and west, the Grand Trunk,



A Harwich Farm Home.

Wabash, Canadian Pacific, Michigan Central, and Pere Marquette, while a sixth, the Canadian Northern, has already been surveyed. Communication north and south is provided by the Pere Marquette railway, and the Chatham, Wallaceburg & Lake Erie electric railway, the latter linking all the steam roads, and affording convenient shipping stations in all parts of the township. Rondeau harbor at the south, and the Thames on the north, provide convenient facilities for water shipment.

Harwich possesses 20 public and 8 union schools, while 13 churches of various denominations dot the township. Blenheim, in the centre of the township, with high and public schools, and 7 additional churches, furnishes also one of the best markets for farm produce in Western Ontario. At the north-western end of the township, the city of Chatham, part of which was originally included in Harwich, offers a market of 12,000 people. Rural mail delivery,

extensive rural telephone systems, natural gas for heating, cooking and lighting, and the promise of hydro electric power in the near future, add to the township's attractions. Five brick and tile works in the township, together with the ridge gravel and sand from lake and river, afford ample building material. Close at hand are three popular summer resorts—the Provincial Park, a natural forest of several thousand acres abundantly stocked with deer, and the popular watering places of Eriean and Erie Beach, where duck shooting, fishing, yachting and other amusements are indulged in the proper season.

ZONE TOWNSHIP

Zone township has historic associations. Within its limits is situated the battlefield of Moravian town, where in the War of 1812 the famous Indian chief, Tecumseh, fought and fell. A memorial boulder marks the battlefield.

Situated at the north east corner of Kent county, Zone has, in the adjoining town of Bothwell and



Apples Are Grown in Abundance.

the villages of Florence and Thamesville, excellent home markets for its fruit, grain, dairy products and live stock. The Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific provide excellent shipping facilities.

Its soil, mostly good clay or sand loam, produces all sorts of grains, fruits and garden products. Corn is the main crop, grown for grain, ensilage, or canning; but hay, oats, wheat, barley, potatoes, apples and small fruits are grown in abundance. Berries are successfully grown. Horses, cattle, sheep, hogs and poultry are shipped weekly. Creameries at Bothwell and Thamesville stimulate the dairying industry.

At one time covered with dense forest, Zone still possesses considerable valuable timber, available for fuel and building purposes. Good drainage, good farm buildings, silos, well kept properties, all speak of intelligent farming. Pure water is easily obtained by drive pumps and artesian wells. Schools,

churches, rural free mail delivery and telephone lines on nearly all roads, make farm life attractive.

In Zone are located the famous Bothwell oil fields which have produced oil in large quantities and from which daily shipments are made.

BOTHWELL

Bothwell is the centre of both a large oil trade and an excellent and productive farming country. The sandy loam in the immediate vicinity is well adapted for small fruits and market gardening. Situated on the main lines of both the Grand Trunk and the Canadian Pacific, between the large cities of London and Chatham, markets are convenient of access.

The town site, situated on Smith creek, close to the Thames, with the River Sydenham nine miles to the north, is well drained. Bothwell is one of the healthiest towns in Canada. Residentially, it is better laid out than most cities. Well kept lawns,



Newcomers Who Will Share Kent's Prosperity.

granolithic walks and magnificent old maple trees, render its streets very attractive.

Bothwell operates an up to date electric light plant and an excellent waterworks system, with reservoir. It has a public park, a half mile race track and an up to date telephone system, the Bothwell Urban and Rural Telephone Company.

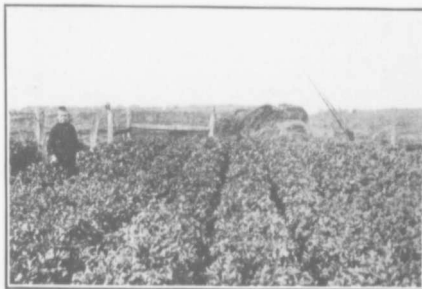
Bothwell's industries include saw mill, sash and door factory, basket factory, box factory, cooperage factory, mattress factory and grist and chopping mill, and, in the near future, machine shop, four blacksmith shops, and one newspaper, The Bothwell Times. The town is well equipped with modern and attractive stores of all kinds. There is a splendid opening for a canning factory, owing to the unfailing supply of good water; and the hydro electric power, soon available, is expected to stimulate manufacturing. Surrounded by first class grazing land, Bothwell is a recognized centre of the horse industry.

CAMDEN TOWNSHIP AND GORE

Situate in the north easterly part of Kent, Camden contains 40,616 acres, with a population of 2285.

Within its boundaries are both the town of Dresden and the village of Thamesville, while the city of Chatham is ten miles west. The southeastern part of the township borders on the River Thames, the soil being a rich, dark loam; the northwest part of the Gore is drained by the Sydenham, the land on each side being a strong, rich loam. The Wabash settlement, lying within the township and gore, is famed for its rich soil and well kept farms. Central Camden is adapted for pasture, tobacco growing, vegetables, corn and fruits; while wheat, barley, oats, beans, corn, sugar beets, tobacco, red clover and alfalfa are the principal crops. Apples, plums, cherries, berries, grapes, and other small fruits grow in abundance. Horses, cattle, hogs, sheep and poultry are produced on all farms. The land is well drained by natural creeks and municipal drainage works.

Shipping facilities are excellent. The Pere Mar-

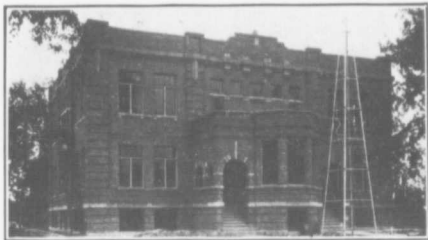


Kent Celery is Famous.

quette railway runs north and south, Dresden being a leading shipping centre, boats also coming up the Sydenham to that point. The C. P. R. and G. T. R. run through south east Camden, with shipping centres at Kent Bridge, Huff's Siding, North Thamesville, and Thamesville. Roads and bridges are well kept. Rural telephone lines and rural mail delivery provide easy means of communication; schools and churches, canneries, creameries, flax, flour and saw mills are all easy of access. Gravel and timber are plentiful. Fall fairs, Women's Institutes, Farmers' Institutes and Farmers' Clubs encourage scientific and intelligent farming. Farm lands are changing hands at from \$50 to \$100 per acre. Soil, climate and other conditions are unexcelled.

DRESDEN

The town of Dresden is situated at the head of navigation on the Sydenham river, in the heart of a singularly productive farming territory. The surrounding land is admirably adapted to the growing of small fruits, sugar beets, tobacco, tomatoes, and



Dresden's New Public School.

similar crops, which are extensively produced.

Dresden operates its own electric light plant, its well lighted streets being very attractive. Water mains, laid in all parts of the town, afford splendid fire protection and an unfailing water supply. Natural gas from the Tilbury field is largely used for domestic and manufacturing purposes.

The town has eight churches. Its up-to-date public and continuation school, finished in 1912, holds one of the best records in Ontario. Strong efforts are being made to secure a Carnegie library. A new government post office has just been opened. Two chartered banks have had branches in Dresden for several years.

Among Dresden's manufacturing establishments are two flour mills, spoke, hub and wheel factory, canning factory, flax mill, two evaporating plants, planing mill, elevators, damper works, foundry and machine shop, carriage factory and two cement block works. Within one mile of the town are two brick yards, two tile yards, and one creamery. Dresden is also one of the best live stock and farm produce markets in the province.

Enquiries, whether with respect to manufacturing opportunities in Dresden or small or large farms in the vicinity will receive prompt and careful attention if addressed to the Town Clerk, Dresden, Ontario.

DOVER TOWNSHIP

Lying north of the River Thames, its western boundary the waters of Lake St. Clair, Dover township is very desirable agriculturally, by reason alike of situation and soil.

The portion bordering on Lake St. Clair forms one of the finest hunting grounds in Ontario. Mitchell's Bay is a favorite rendezvous for sportsmen in the duck season. This thriving little village is also the centre of an extensive fishing industry.

The remainder of the township, about four-fifths of its entire area, is a solid table of high, dry, warm soil, mostly a clay loam, with a subsoil equalled by few townships and surpassed by none. Corn, sugar beets, oats, wheat, barley, clover seed, tobacco, beans and peas, constitute the chief products. Apples of first class quality are extensively grown. Dover

is famous for its hog industry, several car loads being shipped from the different stock yards every week.

One of the most profitable and surest farm crops is the sugar beet. From 2000 acres of beets produced in Dover in 1912, the farmers received \$110,000. To the sugar factory at Wallaceburg, close at hand, the beets are transferred by electric railroad at nominal cost, while special beet sidings at every other concession reduce to a minimum the haul to the shipping point.

The Chatham, Wallaceburg & Lake Erie electric railroad, passing directly through Dover, provides excellent shipping facilities; supplemented by five elevators, four stock yards, and eight sugar beet weigh stations. Dover has an extensive municipal telephone service connected with the Bell system at Chatham. Rural mail routes are being rapidly formed, and churches and schools are numerous.

Dredge cuts, emptying into natural creeks, provide excellent and economical drainage into Lake St. Clair. A large tile plant is located in the centre of the township and much under draining is carried on.

RALEIGH TOWNSHIP

Sharing as it does the fertility for which all Kent County is famed, Raleigh township possesses two striking agricultural assets—the famous Raleigh plains, reclaimed lands noted far and wide for their fertility; and the Ridge land, along the Lake Erie shore, with a soil and situation specially adapted to fruit, bean and tobacco growing, and where are located many of the finest peach orchards in Canada. The Raleigh plains, singularly rich clay lands, produce abundant and unequalled crops of corn, sugar beets and vegetables, as well as all kinds of cereals.

Raleigh shares in the important Lake Erie fisheries, and also in the oil and gas industry, quite a number of paying wells having been drilled in the southern and western part of the township.

Transportation facilities are exceptionally good. The township has five trunk lines, the Grand Trunk,



Vegetable Exhibit at Chatham Fair.

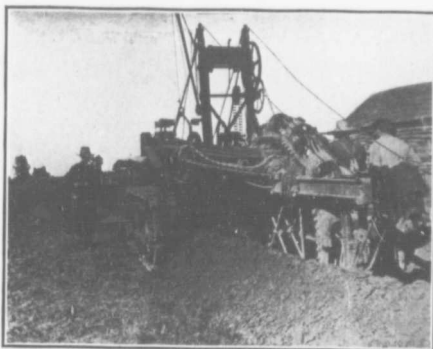
Canadian Pacific, Wabash, Michigan Central and Pere Marquette, while a fifth, the Canadian Northern, is in sight. The C., W. & L. E. electric line, running north and south, also serves a large part of the township. On the south Lake Erie and on the north the River Thames provide waterway facilities.

The city of Chatham, at the north east corner of Raleigh township, and the town of Merlin, to the south, are leading marketing points, while considerable trade is also done with Blenheim. Many farmers make good money raising canning factory produce for the canning factories at Merlin, Chatham and Blenheim, while the sugar beet industry is, particularly in the northern part of the township, regarded as very important and profitable. Shipping points are conveniently situated on the various railroads, facilitating the shipping of produce by the farmers.

TILBURY EAST TOWNSHIP

The township of Tilbury East extends from the River Thames to Lake Erie, its western boundary adjoining Essex County. The soil is the deep black loam which abounds in this section. While excellent crops of grain and grasses are grown, the land is especially adapted to corn, sugar beets and vegetables. The rich, dark soil in certain sections is especially suitable for garden crops.

Two canning factories, at Merlin and Tilbury, furnish a good market for tomatoes, beans and other canning vegetables; the up-to-date farmers are doing a profitable and ever increasing business in seed corn with the Eastern Ontario dairymen; thousands of bushels of onions are produced each year with large profits; while hundreds of cars of sugar beets shipped every year from the railway sidings in the township, afford an excellent source of revenue. More than \$75,000 was paid in Tilbury East for this one crop in 1912.



Tile Draining Brings Large Profits.



Tilbury East Exhibit at Corn Show.

Transportation facilities are excellent. Though the township is only about 12 miles long, four railroad lines cross it; and the River Thames, navigable as far as Chatham and on which there is a daily boat service to Detroit, also affords cheap water transportation for part of the year.

The great Tilbury East gas fields, situated in the southern part of the township along Lake Erie, produce millions of cubic feet of natural gas, which is piped to Windsor, Chatham, Sarnia, Wallaceburg, and dozens of lesser places. The farmers of the township who have no gas wells on their own farms are in a position to secure gas much more cheaply than outsiders, the maximum price being 15 cents per 1000 cubic feet.

This cheap fuel is also attracting to the township certain lines of manufacture. Four brick and tile factories have already located here in the last two or three years and cannot nearly supply the demand for their product. With the building of the hydro-electric transmission line, to be constructed through Tilbury East this year, another cheap source of power will be available to the manufacturers and farmers of the township.

Further information will be cheerfully supplied on application to David Fletcher, Fletcher, Ontario.

TILBURY

Remarkably rapid growth has characterized the town of Tilbury, situated on the border line of Kent and Essex, the two Garden Counties of Canada. Its population, 2000, according to recent estimates, is noted for progressive spirit.

Close proximity to the Tilbury East gas field, the largest natural gas field in Ontario, ensures cheap fuel for domestic purposes and cheap power for manufacturers. Located on the main line of the Michigan Central and the Western Ontario division of the Canadian Pacific, Tilbury's shipping facilities are excellent. That these advantages are appreciated by manufacturers is shown by several recent acqui-

sitions to the list of Tilbury industries. Industries now located here include the Canadian Handle Manufacturing Company, manufacturers of tool handles, etc.; Canadian Top Company, the largest factory in Canada for the manufacture of automobile tops; the Canadian branch of the F. S. Carr Company, of Boston, manufacturers of rubberized cloth; a branch of the Dominion Cannery, a grist mill, flax mill, planing mill, sash and door factory, brick and tile works, machine shops, and others.

Public, separate and continuation schools provide excellent educational facilities. The town has water works, electric light plant, Roman Catholic, Anglican, Presbyterian and Methodist churches, a public library, one private and two chartered banks, three good hotels, theatre, police and fire protection, and over 28 miles of granolithic walks. Its situation between Lakes Erie and St. Clair, renders it very attractive during the summer months. The secretary of the Tilbury board of trade gives prompt attention to enquiries whether from firms or individuals, regarding this fine industrial and residential town.



Onions are a Profitable Crop.

ORFORD TOWNSHIP

Orford's 50,000 acres of farm lands are pre-eminent for fertility. With Lake Erie on the south, and the River Thames on the north, excellent drainage is assured.

Mixed or specialized farming is very profitable in Orford. The clay loam in the south, the gravel loam in the central portion, and the rich sandy and clay loam of the northern section will produce abundant returns of any crops that can be grown in the Temperate Zone.

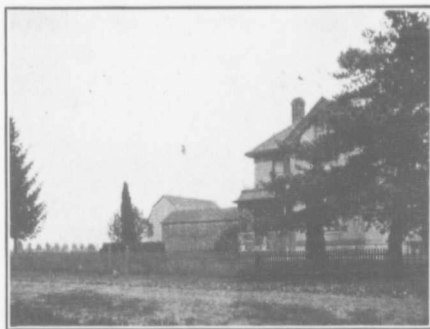
Orford has won many first prizes in corn in competition with what was heretofore regarded as the corn country. At the leading exhibitions in Canada and the United States, this township annually carries off the highest awards in thoroughbred shorthorn cattle and sheep; and in horses, swine and poultry Orford's products equal the best. Soil and climate

give a wheat and oat yield above the average, while Orford leads in bean production.

For the small farmer, there are excellent opportunities for both large and small fruits, vegetables and canning factory produce of all kinds. The British Canadian Cannery's factory at Highgate, in this township, offers a convenient market.

In the gravel sections particularly tobacco is raised to good advantage, from \$200 to \$250 per acre having been realized. The acreage is yearly increasing.

The rural mail delivery and the almost universal use of the telephone, the convenience of schools and churches, and the favorable climate make farm life in Orford exceedingly pleasant. The Orford Agricultural Fair every fall, in its wide variety of products exhibited, furnishes an admirable idea of the many crops which can be produced to splendid advantage in this favored township.



A Home Where Life is Worth While.

THAMESVILLE

Thamesville, situated on the Grand Trunk, Canadian Pacific and Wabash railways, is the commercial hub of East Kent. Surrounding this thriving village of 1000 are the prosperous townships of Howard, Orford, Camden and Zone; a fertile, prosperous country from which it draws a large and growing trade.

Thamesville is the most up to date and progressive village between Detroit and Niagara. It has a municipally owned electric light plant and waterworks; good fire fighting appliances; granolithic sidewalks on practically every street; a handsome town hall, recently completed at a cost of \$10,000; five churches, Anglican, Baptist, Roman Catholic, Methodist, and Presbyterian; two good hotels, two banks; public library, and many up to date stores. The local telephone company serves upwards

of 300 subscribers. Thamesville fall fair draws visitors and exhibitors from all parts of Western Ontario. The splendid fair grounds have a race track second to none in Canada. Another valuable asset is The Thamesville Herald, a live, well edited weekly newspaper.

Among Thamesville's flourishing industries are a saw mill, brick and tile yard, planing mill, grist mill, creamery, poultry killing station, canning factory and cooperage shop. It has, besides, two grain elevators, large hog shipping yards, and two produce exporters.

The close proximity of the battlefield of Moraviantown, not two miles away, where the great Indian chief, Tecumseh, met his death in 1813, gives Thamesville a more than ordinary historic interest.

Full particulars regarding the town, its inducements for small industries, and the fruit-growing and farming opportunities of the surrounding country will be cheerfully furnished by either the president or the secretary of the Thamesville board of trade.

RIDGETOWN

Situated in the midst of the great bean, fruit and tobacco belt, Ridgertown has an excellent territory to draw from, is making notable progress and has a bright future. Located high and dry on the Ridge, five miles from Lake Erie, it is clean, attractive, healthy and a pleasant place to live. Its front street is solidly built up with brick business blocks; its residential streets, lined with maples, present an attractive picture.



A Typical Kent Farm Home.

Its attractions include excellent high and public schools; a well equipped public library; Anglican, Roman Catholic, Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist and Latter Day Saint churches; two chartered banks; three express offices; an opera house; athlet-

ic park; two large bowling greens, with a fine club house on one of them; also a handsome post office and municipal buildings.

Municipally, Ridgertown is progressive. A mod-



Solidly Built Up With Business Blocks.

ern waterworks system, established at a cost of \$40,000, provides from artesian wells a supply of pure water ample for domestic purposes and fire protection. The power house is equipped with the latest gas engines and pumping machinery. The natural gas line provides gas, not merely for municipal but for private purposes, at very low cost. Ridgertown runs its own electric light system, both lighting plant and waterworks being operated by a capable commission.

Industrially, Ridgertown is making steady and rapid progress. It possesses machine shops, sash and door factory, flour mills, basket factory and three large grain elevators. The Dominion Cannery's factory, just completed at a cost of \$60,000, employs 100 hands all the year round and provides a good market for produce from the surrounding territory.

HOWARD TOWNSHIP

Every crop that thrives in Kent thrives also in Howard township. Favorably situated between Lake Erie on the south and the River Thames on the north, Howard is noted for the productiveness of its soil and the wide variety of its products.

Ridgertown, near the centre of the township, is the chief shipping and marketing point. Three railways, the Grand Trunk, Michigan Central and Pere Marquette, pass through the township, which is also traversed by the Talbot road, the main automobile highway through Southern Ontario.

Along the two "ridges" in Southern Howard, the soil is light and gravelly, an ideal soil for the production of beans and tobacco. Bean growing is the outstanding industry, the experimental plots of the Ontario government being situated at Morpeth, in this township. Tobacco is successfully grown, and the soil and situation are singularly suited for peach growing and the production of all kinds of fruits.

Further north there is a clay belt, suitable for corn, and along the river the soil is sandy loam. Howard produces practically every farm crop in abundance.

The fisheries along Lake Erie are of considerable importance. Morpeth has good dock and water shipping facilities.

CITY OF CHATHAM

WHAT CHATHAM IS

Chatham is the county town of Kent.* It is the geographical and commercial centre, not merely of the county, but also of a large area of territory adjacent to Kent. Situated on the Thames, served by six railway lines, the centre of a rich agricultural district, it is the chief shipping point of a populous and prosperous territory. Natural gas, secured from the Tilbury East gas field a few miles distant, provides cheap power for manufacturers, and cheap fuel. Residentially, Chatham, the Maple City, is an ideal place for a home. Its population is 12,039—and growing. The year 1912 saw an increase of nearly 1000. The assessment is \$7,295,444. Last year's increase in assessment was \$1,749,656.

WHY MANUFACTURERS LOCATE IN CHATHAM

In recent years, many outside manufacturers have established Canadian branches in Chatham. There are reasons—plenty of them—why Chatham, Ontario, should be favored as a factory site.

There are reasons, too, why the number of Chatham factories must continue to increase. Canada is a rapidly growing country. Its purchasing power is steadily increasing. At the present rate of progress, Canada will grow one hundred per cent. in the next decade. Manufacturers—both British and American—will inevitably find it profitable to establish Canadian branches in order to serve this growing population in the most convenient and economical way.

For such branch factories, Chatham is a logical site.

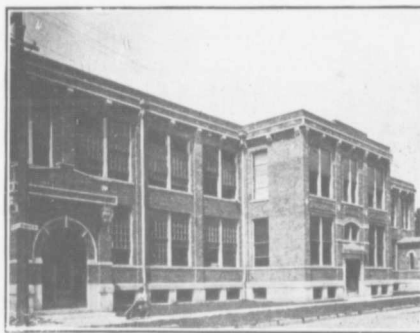


The Wm. Gray-Sons-Campbell, Limited, Carriage Factory

CHEAP POWER FOR MANUFACTURING.

An unlimited supply of natural gas, piped from the largest gas fields in Ontario, is available for Chatham manufacturers at 12 cents per 1000 cubic feet. With gas at this price, power can be generated at the rate of \$1.20 per 100 horse power for 10 hours.

An auxiliary power supply is ensured from the



American Industries Establish Branches Here.

Ontario Hydro-Electric system, which will be extended to Chatham in the course of the present year. This provides electric power from Niagara Falls at the actual cost of production and distribution.

Rondeau harbor, a few miles to the south, is one of the greatest coal depots in Ontario, ensuring to Chatham manufacturers, if they so desire, coal at the minimum of cost.

SPLENDID RAILWAY FACILITIES

Six lines of railway, five steam and one electric, provide cheap, quick and easy transportation facilities with all outside points. These railways include five trunk lines—the Grand Trunk, Canadian Pacific, Wabash, Michigan Central, and Pere Marquette. The Pere Marquette (north and south line) and the Chatham, Wallaceburg & Lake Erie electric line, connect all the steam roads and tap a populous and productive country territory.

The Canadian Northern (Western Ontario branch) and the Ontario Hydro-Electric radial line, both planned for early construction have been surveyed through Chatham, and will also serve our manufacturers.

DEEP WATER NAVIGATION.

The River Thames, emptying into Lake St. Clair, provides a direct water way to the great lakes, north and south, thus giving Chatham manufacturers the advantage of cheap transportation rates by water, for bringing in raw materials and shipping out their finished product. A line of freight steamers is planned to make regular calls here, providing direct water connection with the Canadian west, where a large share of Chatham's manufactured products are sold.

To the south, the Pere Marquette connects by rail with Rondeau harbor, a few miles distant, one of the finest harbors on the northern shore of Lake Erie.

SUCCESSFUL INDUSTRIES

Chatham has a long list of successful and firmly established industries. Many of these market their products, not merely in Canada, but in all parts of the world. Chatham carriages and wagons have sold in New Zealand and Australia, and Chatham-made farm implements in Great Britain. Many of these industries, now employing hundreds of hands, have grown from small beginnings to their present large proportions. All are



Best Market in Western Ontario.

WHY CHATHAM IS AN IDEAL PLACE FOR A HOME

Situated, as is all Kent county, in a southerly latitude, its temperature moderated by the Great Lakes to the north, Chatham possesses great natural advantages as a home city. The climate is pleasant, never extremely hot or extremely cold. Winters are short, and never severe. Not merely is living pleasant, but fuel bills are low.

PUBLIC SERVICE.

Chatham has upwards of twenty miles of paved roads, cement walks on all its streets, and good sewers. The streets are electric lighted. Chatham's famous shade trees have earned this the name of "The Maple City."

The water-works system, one of the best in Canada, provides an abundant and cheap water supply, the purity of which has been repeatedly proven under the severest tests. The city has an excellent fire-fighting force, and fire losses are small.

Electric lighting for household purposes, and natural gas for heating, cooking and lighting, are available at

steadily growing. Chatham products command a nationwide reputation for excellence. This reputation will help the manufacturer who locates in Chatham to secure a Canadian market for his goods. "Chatham made is well made" is an old saying proven true by thousands of satisfied customers.

These industries provide steady employment for hundreds of skilled workmen in many different lines of trade. Chatham workmen are happy and contented. It is a significant feature that a large proportion of them own their homes.

A PRODUCTIVE COUNTRY

Chatham is the centre of a territory that is, in point of climate, at least two weeks in advance of any other part of Canada. Not merely does it produce to advantage all the ordinary farm crops, but it has a monopoly of those which demand a lengthy season. Tobacco, beans, sugar beets, corn, peaches and other tender fruits, and early tomatoes, are all grown in the surrounding territory. For these products, which the rest of Canada cannot produce as early and must buy from Sunny Southwestern Ontario, Chatham is the central marketing point. More than that, it is the one logical point in Canada for the establishment of factories, either large or small, which will convert these raw materials into finished products.

INDUCEMENTS OFFERED TO MANUFACTURERS

To intending manufacturers, Chatham offers besides these natural advantages liberal inducements in the way of free sites, free water supply, tax exemption and the like. Manufacturers who are seeking locations in Canada should write for full particulars. Letters addressed Chairman Industrial Committee, Chatham, Ontario, will receive prompt and courteous attention.

TO ALL A HEARTY WELCOME

Above all things, Chatham extends to newcomers, whether they be individuals or industries, a hearty and cordial welcome. Everything will be done that a progressive, public-spirited people can do to help the newcomer to success, and to prove to him that Chatham is an ideal city for brains or capital or both to invest themselves.



A Glimpse of King Street.

moderate rates. A central steam heating plant serves a large portion of the city.

The city free mail delivery brings the mail twice or three times daily to your door. The local telephone service is excellent; there is a free rural telephone service for thirty-two miles in the surrounding country, and practically any other point can be reached by long distance telephone at moderate rates. Chatham has five chartered banks, one loan company, and two express and telegraph offices.

Chatham has 62 passenger trains daily, coming and going.

The hotels are excellent, and well conducted. Chatham enjoys a high reputation as a convention city, many important gatherings having been held here.

LOW COST OF LIVING.

Chatham's public market, the best in Ontario, helps to reduce the cost of living. On this market farmers from miles around sell direct to the consumer.

House rents are moderate.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES.

Chatham is widely known for its excellent public schools. The Central school is the largest public school in Ontario, outside of Toronto. McKeeugh School,



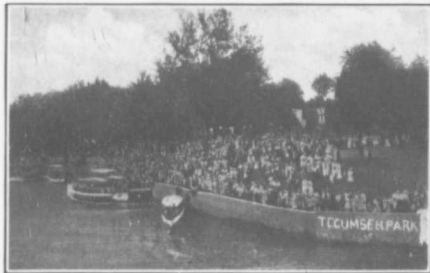
Central School at Chatham.

Queen Mary School (just completed) and St. Joseph's (Separate) School, provide excellent public school facilities for pupils in all parts of the city. Among Chatham's higher educational institutions, the Chatham Collegiate Institute has repeatedly ranked first in the entire province of Ontario. The Ursuline Ladies College and the Canada Business College draw pupils from all parts of Canada and the United States.

The Chatham Public Library is one of the hand-somest and best equipped public libraries in the province. An art gallery and lecture course are being planned.

PLAYGROUNDS AND PLEASURE RESORTS

Tecumseh Park, in the exact centre of the city, is Chatham's favorite playground. Here, one minute's



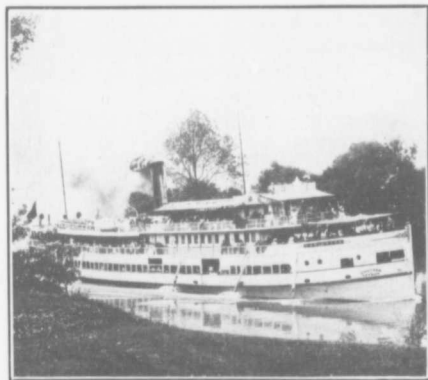
Chatham's Favorite Playground.

walk from the main business thoroughfare, athletic sports are held, while it is also a favorite recreation spot for women and children. Here are the baseball diamond, the cricket crease and one of the best lawn bowling greens in Ontario. On summer evenings, band concerts are held here. The Thames, on the banks of which Tecumseh Park is situated, is a favorite stream for canoeing and motor boating.

Facing Tecumseh Park is the Hotel Sanita, with its celebrated mineral baths. Close by are the Armouries of the 24th Kent Regiment.

Victoria park within easy distance of the centre of the city, is larger than Tecumseh Park and a favorite picnic ground. It is attractively laid out with evergreens and comprises some 15 acres.

Within easy distance of the city, on Lake Erie, are the summer resorts of Erie Beach and Eriean. Here are situated the summer cottages of many Chathamites. Government Park, on Lake Erie, within easy distance of these resorts, is a wide stretch of natural forest reserve.



Thames River Trip is Popular.



Chatham's Handsome Public Library.

Many Chathamites also sojourn for the summer at the mouth of the Thames, while Mitchell's Bay, on Lake St. Clair, is, like Erieau, a favorite spot for anglers and sportsmen.

In the summer months there is a daily boat service via the Thames and Lake St. Clair between Chatham and Detroit. Chatham is a favorite resort for excursionists from the American city.

AMUSEMENTS AND SOCIAL FACILITIES

Chatham has four theatres, one of these, the "Chatham," affording accommodation for the largest travelling companies. The Chatham Lyceum Course is a popular amusement and educative feature every winter. Amateur entertainments are many.

Hockey and curling are favorite winter sports; the Chatham hockey team being in the western district of

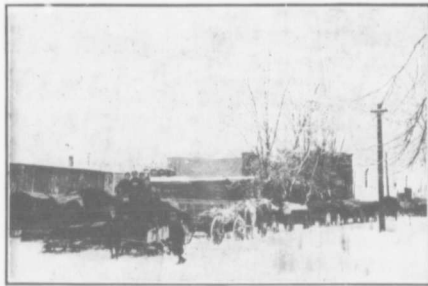
the Ontario Hockey Association. There is a large curling rink.

Practically all the leading religious denominations are represented among Chatham's churches. The various church societies afford wide room for social and philanthropic activities; and the young people's organizations help to provide winter amusements.

All the leading fraternal organizations are represented here.

Prosperous organizations are the Chatham Auto Club, the Chatham Motor Boat Club, Kent Historical Society, the Macaulay Club (a debating organization of more than 30 years standing). The Daughters of the Empire, Boy Scouts and Girl Guides are all strongly organized here. The 24th Kent Regiment is one of the most efficient city corps in Ontario.

Musically, Chatham is the headquarters of the Kent Choral Society. Bands include the 24th Regiment Band, the Boy Scouts bugle and bag pipe bands, the Salvation Army band of 50 pieces (the best Salvation Army band in Ontario).



Tobacco Delivery at Chatham.

NOW IS THE TIME

Every year Kent County's agricultural advantages are more and more appreciated. With the increase of population, land values are sure to rise. Now, while prices for the best land are still comparatively low, is the time for the man seeking a home in Canada to secure land where returns are the surest and opportunities for the future are the greatest.

