

MATSQUI

British Columbia

An Agricultural District in the Lower
Fraser Valley of Manifold Re-
sources and Possibilities

Industrial Advantages
and Opportunities



A GOODLY LAND IN THE HEART OF
THE MOST FERTILE DISTRICT
OF A GOODLY PROVINCE

MATSQUI, the Farmer's Paradise, and what You are looking for, Wealth, Happiness, Health, Prosperity, Home.

*A Veritable Land Flowing With Milk and
Honey Waiting for You.*

MUNICIPALITY OF MATSQUI

Situated on South Shore of the Fraser River, Midway
between Vancouver and Chilliwack Cities
Comprises an Area of 56,000 Acres
Assessed Value, \$4,220,000
Population, 2,000

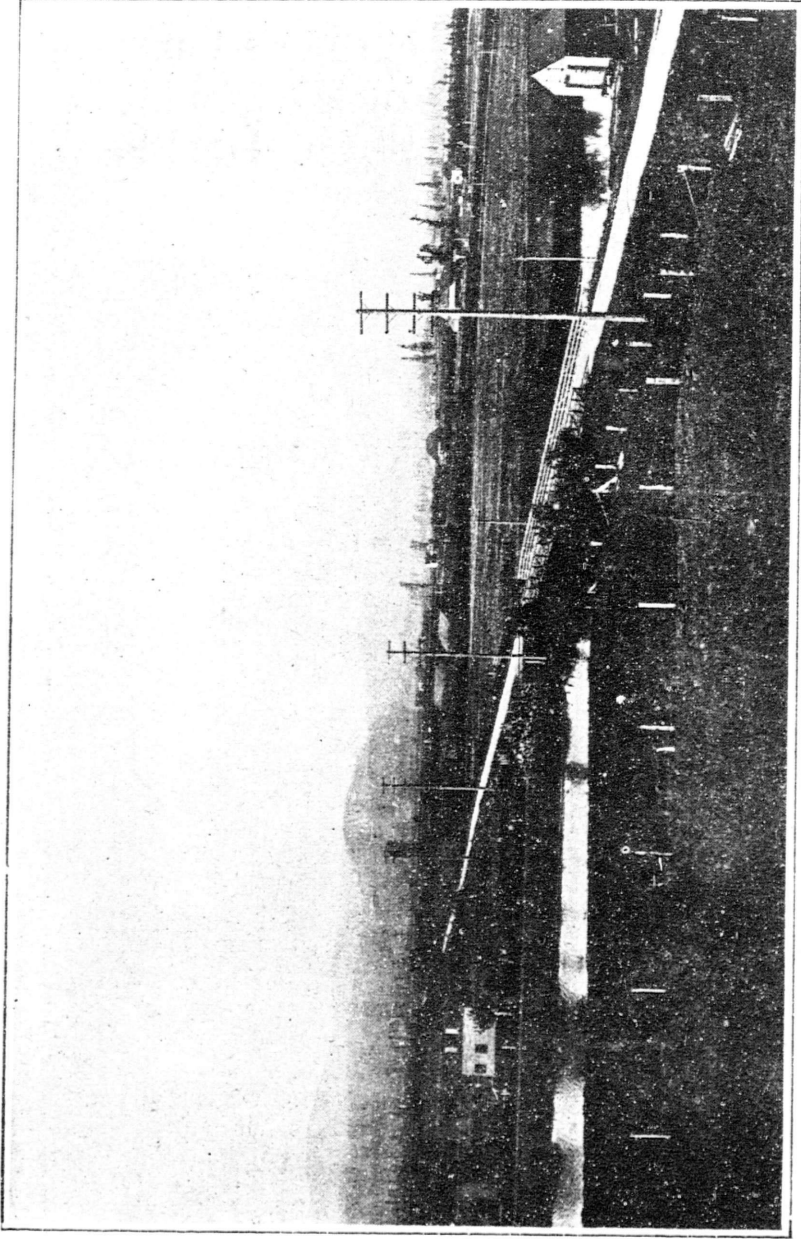
Governed by Reeve and Council of Four Members

REEVE:
Alexander McCallum

COUNCILLORS:
Ward 1—M. Z. Melander Ward 2—Peter R. Keay
Ward 3—H. S. Phinney Ward 4—J. T. Aish
C. M. C.—John LeFeuvre

Authorized and Issued by the
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF MATSQUI, 1919

Address enquiries for information regarding this Municipality to the Clerk of the Municipality of Matsqui,
Municipal Hall, Mt. Lehman, B. C.

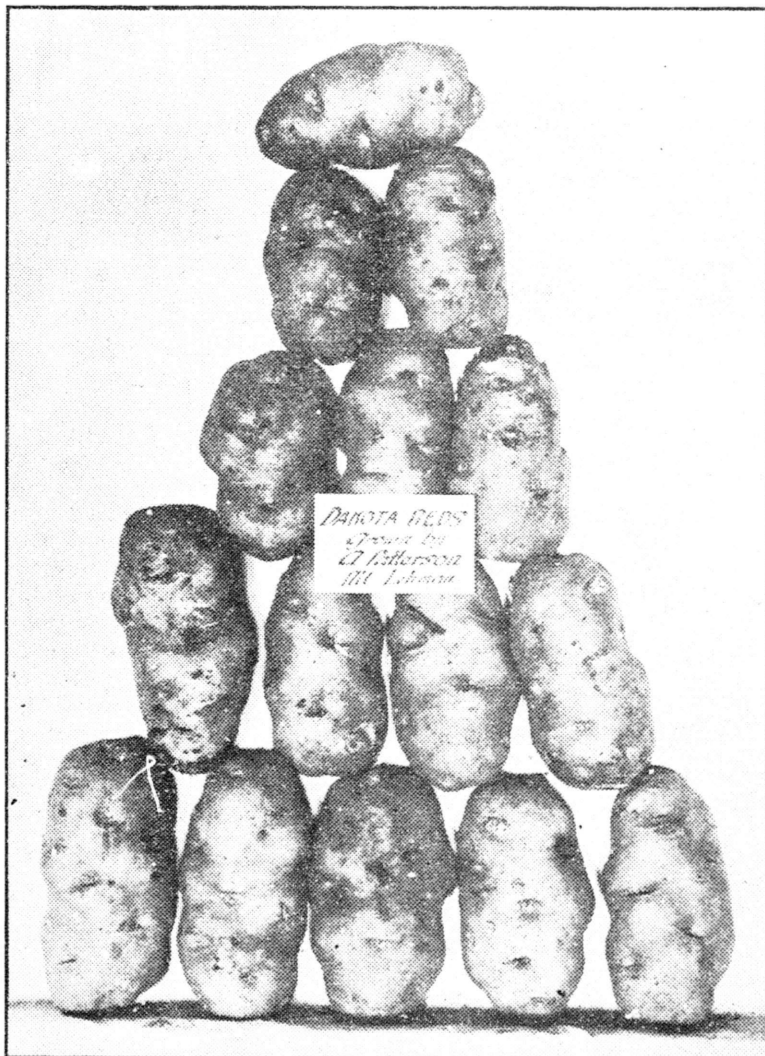


THE FERTILE LANDS OF MATSQUI PRAIRIE

There is no more fertile ground for agricultural purposes than the silt which the Fraser River has carried down through the ages 'o build up the ground now known as Matsqui Prairie.

Foreword

This little booklet is published for your benefit. It is not a real estate work of art, but it aims at giving you the truth about one of the most prosperous municipalities in the Fraser Valley. There are statements in this booklet which might easily be withheld, as, for example, that the temperature has been known to touch zero. The zero mentioned is the exception, which proves the rule, and is given as a plain unvarnished statement. There is no place on God's good earth where there are not some things which displease some one, and the groucher is never satisfied. He would not be satisfied in heaven. This man is not wanted in Matsqui, and this booklet is not written for him, but for you, who are looking for a place where you can make good without those terrible handicaps which you have struggled against for so long. The wife is growing old-looking in spite of her still beautiful face, owing to the isolation and long winters on the prairies, or maybe the children are not getting the full advantages of education, which you would like them to have. You want a home now, comfort, and a little life occasionally. That gets your case, does it not? Life has made a man of you, and you do not need a nurse to tighten your suspenders. You are one of those men who can realize a good thing, when you see it, and you can make a good chance into a big success. You are the man that Matsqui is calling for, and you are the man who will know your way to gather the rich jewels from her naturally wealthy storehouse. Pay Matsqui a visit and judge for yourself.



POTATOES GROWN BY R. PATTERSON OF MATSQUI

Potatoes, the equal of any that can be grown in any part of the world are raised in enormous crops in all localities in Matsqui. Those pictured above were grown on the farm of Mr. R. Patterson, of Mount Lehman, which is an upland farm, a term applied to all highlands of the municipality.

MATSQUI

Its Agricultural and Industrial Resources and Opportunities

FOUR townships, right in the heart of the Fraser Valley, in the Lower Mainland of British Columbia, are embraced by the Municipality of Matsqui. Equi-distant from Chilliwack at the east, and New Westminster at the sea, it enjoys every physical characteristic of this famous valley, known as the richest agricultural district of British Columbia. The Fraser River itself makes the northern boundary of the Municipality, and its southern border is defined by the great imaginary line of the International Boundary dividing the province from the State of Washington.

Between this line and the river is to be found every type of country that is good. Rising uplands with commanding views and delightful situations; virgin forests of firs and cedars that have waved their ever-green arms to the centuries as they passed; woodland glades and sylvan retreats that would have gladdened the heart of the hermit as they delight the calculating mind of the lumber merchant; rolling benchlands that appeal to the orchardist and cattleman, the mixed farmer and the retired home-seeker; and below these the grassy acres of the prairie soil, black with fertility, studded with the barns and buildings of the dairy farmers.

GOOD WATER OBTAINABLE

The hills to the south east and west of the prairie are well supplied with numerous streams which unite on the lowlands before joining the Fraser. A project is under discussion for piping this fresh spring water to the lower areas of the prairie where the surface water is naturally stale. There are no engineering difficulties in this scheme; it is simply a matter of laying a few miles of pipes.

These lands adjoining the river-bed are protected from the spring-rising of the Fraser by a small dyking system put up by the people, which affords ample protection against flood. Heavy rains will sometimes fill up the water levels, but inconvenience is never more than temporary.

NO FUEL SHORTAGE

Rains, as is well known, are characteristic of the Coast District. After harvesting is over some weeks of intermittent wet weather are expected. Intervals of brightness occur, when the farmer usually betakes himself to the wood lot for the winter's supply of fuel. The temperature frequently falls to freezing, but seldom goes lower until the New Year, when a "cold snap" is likely to be experienced. During this spell the thermometer has been known to register "zero," although many winters pass without this sharp experience.

NO LONG FEEDING TIME IN WINTER

While milking cattle are all carefully housed, because of the increased production following such care, young stock range at large through a good deal of the winter. On Dec. 31, 1918, the prairie was still supporting young and dry stock that had not been under shelter or hay fed that fall.

In normal winters grass will commence to grow again in February; by the end of March the stock are again picking their sustenance from the open benches and bush lands.

SNOW AND WINTER SOON OVER

The average snowfall is about sixteen inches, much of which melts immediately. Heavy rains in February and early March remove all traces of winter, and spring work commences early. The growing season is remarkably long, so long in fact that it is becoming a recognized feature of orchardists to do all pruning in the summer months to check growth.

TWO CROPS FROM MEADOWS

First cuttings of clover and grass are made in the latter half of June, during September and October the second crop is cut. A good aftermath for grazing will come on after this. The wild evergreen blackberry can be gathered plentifully in October; and in the gardens. Everbearing strawberries will ripen well into November. Out in the woods the ferns, mosses and foxglove leaves remain green through the mild frosts, and by the end of January the maple buds are opening, and new shoots of grass and herbage are showing green tips.

IDEAL DAIRY FARMING CONDITIONS

This equable, moist climate makes an ideal dairying country. There is no drought in summer, no long incarceration of stock in winter.

The bottom lands raise such crops of beet, mangel, turnip and pumpkin as are not excelled anywhere. On the benches and logged-off lands grain and clover yields are greater than in any other province of the Dominion, according to the statistics of the government.

As a natural sequence of these conditions the chief articles of produce in the district are milk and cream.

There are large dairies where herds up to a hundred head are kept, with the assistance of hired help. Milk is shipped directly into

Vancouver and New Westminster for the daily supply of city householders. Fresh cream at very satisfactory prices is shipped by other farms to city creameries and restaurants.

COMFORTABLE LIVING FOR ALL

Smaller farmers content themselves with selling sour cream for butter-making to firms in town or to the thriving creamery at Clayburn in their own midst.

The man on ten acres with his half-dozen head of stock makes a comfortable living with these and the bye products of veal, pork and poultry, while the district is dotted with even smaller places of five acres, where the man of small means but independent spirit can assist his neighbors in spring and harvest, or the mill-man and road foreman in their busy weeks, and still maintain his own land, stock and garden in unshackled freedom.

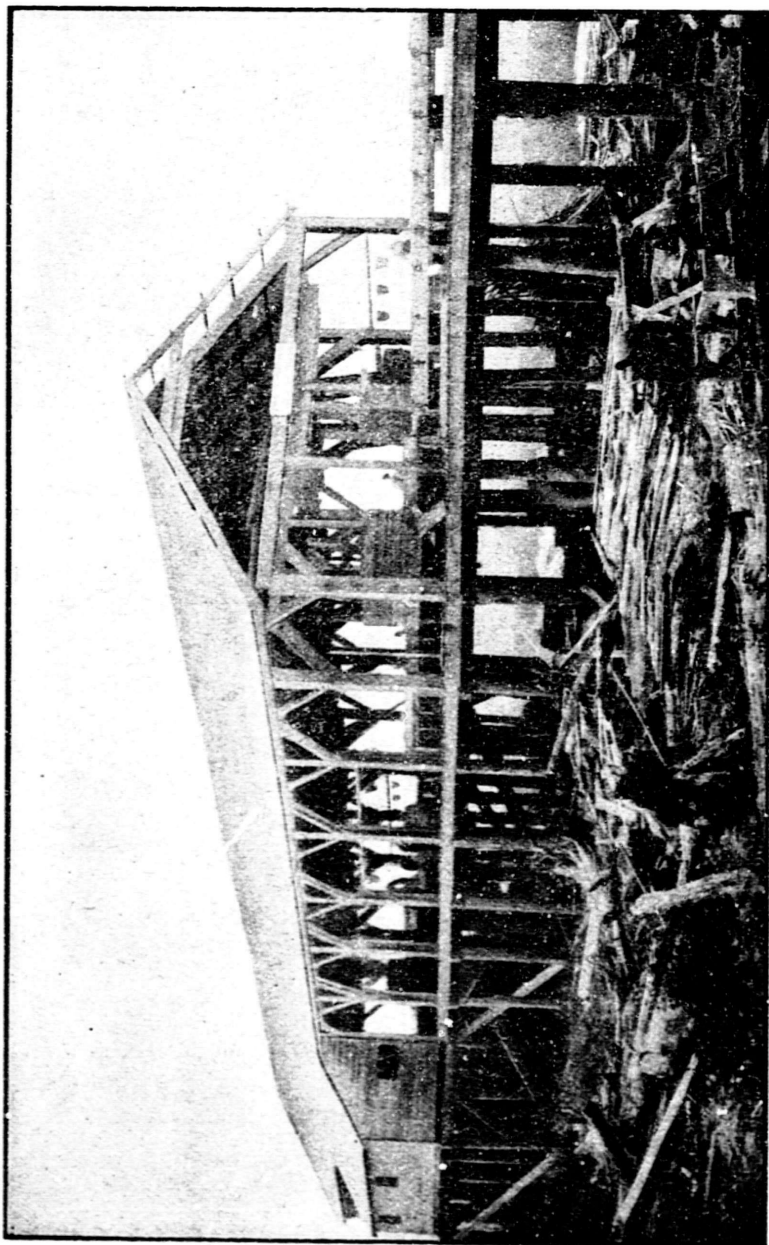


THE HILL-TOUT RESIDENCE

A pretty farm home near Abbotsford, in Matsqui Municipality. Many similar homes may be seen along the many beautiful drives throughout Matsqui.

INDEPENDENCE FOR THE INDUSTRIOUS

The small freeholder is the backbone of the country. Clear of the thralldom which a big exacting business entails, independent of continuous hired service that deprives a man of self-reliance, he enjoys the benefits of family life in security. Fruit, eggs, butter and pork are provided with comparative ease and he forms that reserve of occasional help required by the big rancher, the lumber-man near who



SAWMILL OPERATIONS IN MATSQUI

In addition to the large mill at Abotsford, there are several smaller mills such as above in different parts of the municipality of Matsqui. These mills are all operated by electric power of which there is an abundance in every part of the corporation. The continuous operation of these mills ensures settlers of an abundance of labor at any time that they may seek employment.

is getting out timber, and the prospective farmer who is clearing new land of logs and stumps for future cultivation. His family supports the local school and church, the local store-keeper and trades. He is the nucleus of the small community which civilizes the wild and gives the countryside that social friendliness which is the charm of older countries.

As a rule the intensive cultivation of from 20 to 40 acres requires more work than one man can do, unless assisted by his family. It follows then that the bigger holdings are gradually breaking up into smaller, more compact farms of 80 acres and less which makes for better social conditions, a brighter and closer-knit homelife.



RESIDENCE OF COUNCILLOR M. Z. MELANDER

One of the cosy homes of the Matsqui municipality, which has been built on ground formerly covered with heavy forest.

PLENTY OF FRUIT FOR THE HOME

There is no well-defined line of demarcation between the various phases of agricultural pursuits in the Matsqui Municipality. The big dairyman, whose sole business of life is more milk and cream, will have a well-trimmed orchard beside the house, rows of berries and small fruits, a few hives of bees, and a chicken coop; while the expert fruit grower shipping fancy berries to Vancouver or the North West Territories will have his family cow and a few other live-stock for household supplies and to maintain the fertility of the soil.

There is every opportunity for the specialist in every direction from thorough-bred cattle to bee-keeping and the raising of nursery stock, and evidence enough of the successful carrying out of these specialized enterprises, but the major portion of the landowners mix

their farming operations with that sense of variety which is the spice of life and produces both interest and contentment in the home of their choice.

FRUIT GROWING FINANCIALLY SUCCESSFUL

If the cattleman seeks the rich bottom lands, the fruit-grower turns to the hills. The higher benches of glacial drift that have carried fir and cedar, maple, birch and alder need no coaxing to produce apples and pears of good size and flavor. These fruits do not attain, in the Fraser Valley at all times, that high coloring peculiar to the Okanagan and Kootenay Valleys, but they concede nothing in taste and aroma, in fact those who know them prefer the fruits of the Lower Mainland. Fruit that is well-packed and graded, from orchards that have been well-cared for, are in no difficulties on the market as their price is not burdened with the heavy freightage of those from the valleys further inland. Should the orchardist prefer selling the culls and windfalls to making his own cider, the jam factory across the River Fraser will give from twelve to twenty dollars a ton for them.

Plums and prunes thrive as freely as the native trees; apricots and peaches, luscious and delectable, do very well on any sheltered slope of southerly aspect, but beyond all other fruits the bush lands are the natural ground of berries and small fruits.

NATURE'S HELP TO PRESERVE CUPBOARD

The wild thimbleberry—"red cap" or Scotch cap"—grows everywhere and wherever a yard of open space gives the room, the ruby "black cap" throws out its graceful vines, and when such land is planted with canes of higher commercial value the response is all that can be desired.

The grower of small fruits, particularly raspberry and blackberry, has but two difficulties—keeping back the too vigorous growth of vines, and getting sufficient help in berry-picking time.

There has been, as yet, no hint that the Northwest Territories—to which the commercial harvest is shipped—are likely to be overstocked with these berries. The call seems greater as the supply increases, and the war increased the demand beyond sight of fulfillment. With improved transportation through the Rockies this field will widen and encourage the berry-men to greater planting.

GOOD MARKETS FOR BERRIES

Only perfect berries of the exact stage of ripeness are crated. Over-ripe or damp fruit, of course, would fail in shipment. This is the opportunity of the jam and canning factories.

One of these, the King-Beach Manufacturing Company, is just over the river from Matsqui, others are in Vancouver. The prices paid by these firms are usually such that if the whole crop were sent to the factory, and no fancy fruit crated, the fruit could still be grown profitably.

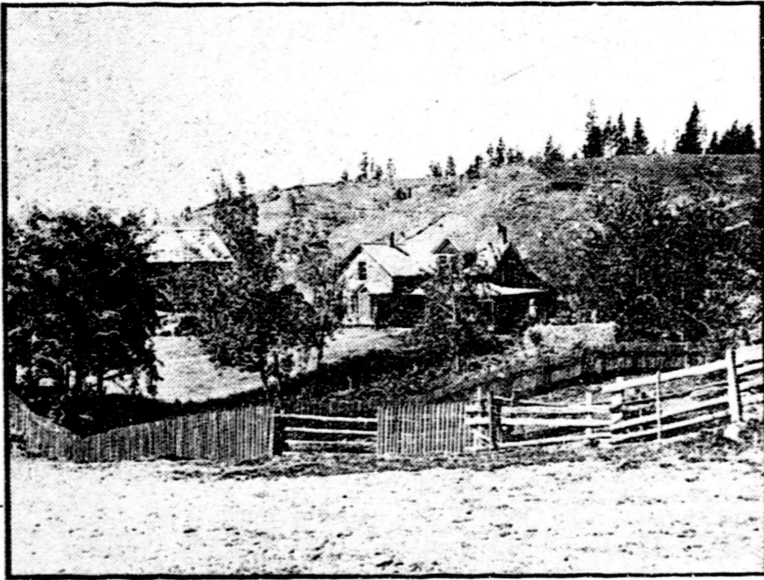
STRAWBERRIES A SUCCESS

Strawberries also are extensively grown, their higher value on the market compensating for the extra cultivation and more frequent planting out required for this queen of the berries.

For the small landowner, the retired business man or woman, the person incapable of heavy manual labor, no enterprise is so remunerative or so congenial as the raising of small fruits.

Rhubarb for shipping, tomatoes for canning and shipping, potatoes and the usual vegetables are profitably grown.

Sweet corn will both thrive and ripen for seed. Ensilage corn and many field varieties do well, and several varieties of grapes are grown out-doors.



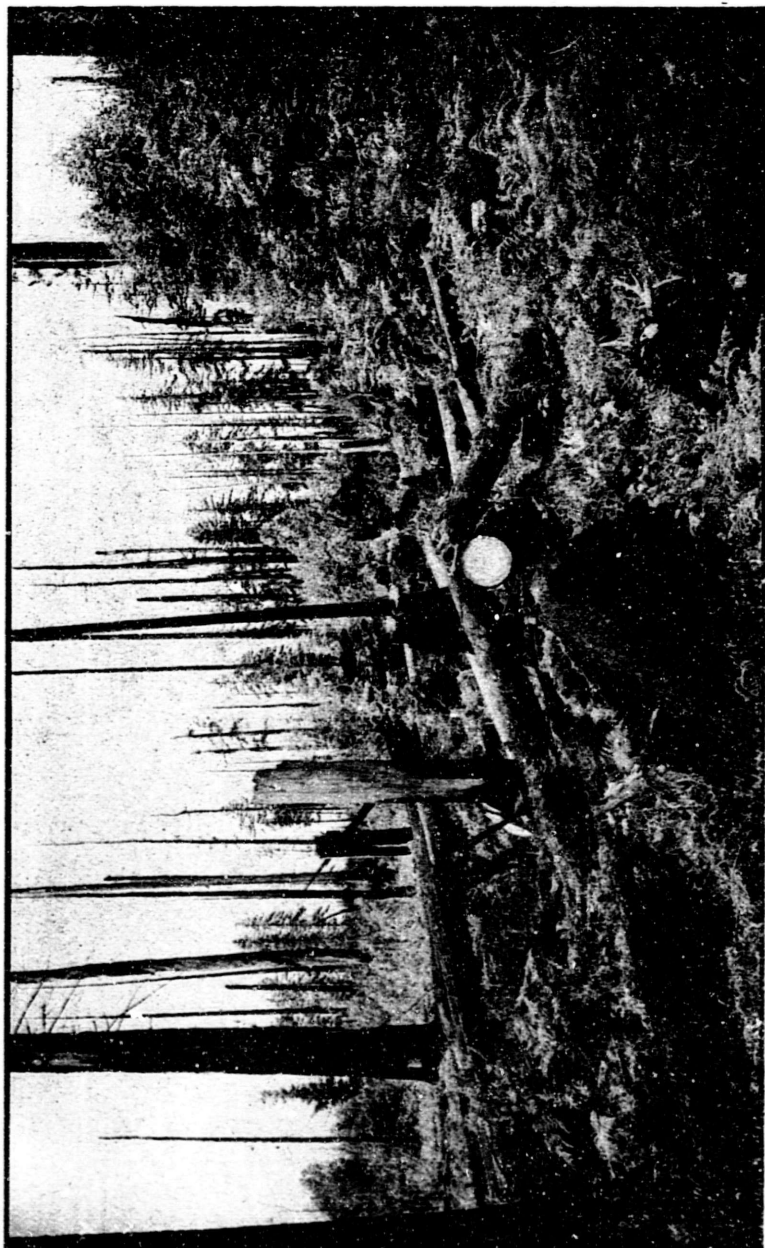
RESIDENCE OF RICHARD PEARDON

One of the natural beauty spots of this beautiful district of Matsqui.

ALL KINDS OF MONEY TO BE MADE IN HENS

Poultry-keeping as a profession, and apart from the customary barn-yard flock can be followed quite successfully in this district. Like every other occupation, it demands the full interest and decided fondness of the person undertaking the pursuit. Given this liking for feathered flocks and a reasonable intelligence, chickens, ducks and geese will yield a comfortable living for the owner.

Ducks and geese require only the meanest house for shelter. Chickens winter well in open-fronted houses, if they are wind-proof



LOGGING IN MATSQUI

Lumbering is, and for some years will continue to be one of the chief industries within the Corporation of Matsqui. Above is a typical scene of logging operations that can be duplicated in a number of different parts of the municipality at almost any time of the year.

on three sides. Green food can be had eleven months in the year, running streams will not freeze at all, and duck ponds for little more than a month.

CHICKEN FEED EASILY GROWN ON FERTILE LAND

Chicken feed is high-priced at the Coast, the long hauls of the Alberta wheat making it expensive even in normal times. The progressive poultryman is little concerned with this, however, for he grows the greater bulk of his feed on his own place.

There are instances, notwithstanding, in the Municipality of Matsqui where men have bought every scrap of feed, including grit, at war-time prices, are depending solely on profits from the hen-roost for their support, and yet have pulled themselves out of debt and started a balance at the bank which is continually growing. The reason lies, of course, in the fine marketing facilities. The Coast cities must have fresh eggs and poultry, and will pay prices that stagger the Eastern farmer. In pre-war days eggs averaged 57c per dozen. In the Fall of 1918 they were retailed at eight cents each in Vancouver, and so long as grain continues high, the price of eggs is bound to correspond.

BEE-KEEPING MOST PROFITABLE

An industry, comparatively new to the Province, is bee-keeping. Professional bee-keepers who are devoting themselves solely to the production of honey can be counted on the fingers even yet. There is only one in this district. From some sixty-five hives he has taken in one year three tons of honey. This was sold at a price that paid him average wages for the twelve months, yet the care of the bees, extracting and selling the honey occupied less than half his working hours. Many people keep a few bees for their own table supply of honey. A few others, as a side line, keep a dozen or more colonies which net them handsome profits. An average hive in an average year should yield fifty pounds of honey, worth ten to twelve dollars on the market.

EXCELLENT MARKETS EASILY ACCESSIBLE

Production necessitates a market. Markets must be accessible. Communities are isolated, markets cannot be reached without good transportation service.

The first highway in the province was built in the old days of gold, from New Westminster to the Cariboo fields, and this old trail known as the Yale Road remains the finest road in the country. It crosses Matsqui roughly from east to west and forms the main artery to which other trunk roads are tributary. It is maintained by the Provincial Government, and is no expense to the district, which can, therefore, apply all its local revenue to the development and up-keep of smaller roads and outlets for settlers.

Pemberton & Son

ESTABLISHED 1887

Farms for sale in all
parts of the Fraser
Valley.

Cattle Ranches in the
interior.

We shall be glad to
furnish map and list
on application.

Pemberton & Son

418 HOWE STREET, VANCOUVER, B. C.

TAXES LIGHT

Local taxes are by no means burdensome. Compared with the States and other countries they are very light. Allowing for difference in location, etc., the annual levy will average about 50 cents per acre.

RAILWAY AND ROAD COMMUNICATION WONDERFUL

When the C.P.R. had laid its band of steel across the continent, a junction with the huge network of railroads south of the line was required. A branch-line south from Mission City to Sumas, Washington, was made the connecting link with the American lines. A bridge was thrown over the Fraser into Matsqui, and the Canadian Pacific makes its Seattle connections by a road through this district, having stations at Matsqui, Clayburn and Abbotsford. This gives direct communication with the Coast and all the great American North West. The American "Hill" line, the Great Northern Railway, on its way from the States to Vancouver, runs east and west through the southern section of the municipality, making stations at Abbotsford, Pinegrove and Aldergrove.

Parallel to this, across the northern end, runs the Canadian Northern, the great Transcontinental line, calling at Mt. Lehman and Matsqui, and intervening milk stations. These three great lines run a minimum of one train a day, and in themselves give ample facilities, one would imagine, for the shipment of local produce. When running west they carry daily loads of milk and cream from the valley to the Coast cities, with other subsidiary products, and on the eastward journey take the summer fruits of the district with the lumber ties and shingles from the several lumber mills through the Rockies to the Prairie countries.

B.C. ELECTRIC RAILWAY IS THE FARMER'S CAR

But the most popular of all railways was built in 1910, when the B.C. Electric Railway Co. laid down the Chilliwack branch from Vancouver, through the most populous parts of the Fraser Valley to Chilliwack city. A distance of 75 miles at an outlay of three and a half million dollars.

Through the winter months three passenger trains daily are run the whole distance. In summer this service is increased as the traffic demands. An easy, rapid and cheap method of transportation is thus provided, permitting the Matsqui farmer to leave home after "chores" in the morning, spend several hours in town, and get back again in time for his evening work—that is, of course, if he lives near the station.

He can be carried conveniently to neighboring districts and back, for sales, meetings, business or social visits, even the autoist finding the service advantageous as all gatherings are timed to fit the timetable. Special cars can be engaged for particular excursions.

Cooper Seldon Co. Clayburn Store

CAN YOU BE CONVINCED?

Many people think that it is impossible to find a first class general store in a village this size—there is one here, however, and a visit will satisfy you of the fact. The stock of Groceries, Dry Goods, Boots, Hardware, etc., are bought from the best wholesale houses in Canada and we can sell at the **LOWEST PRICES**. Family Trade is especially solicited. Your patronage is always appreciated and will have the best attention.



This is COOPER SELDON CO.'S Up-to-Date Creamery and Store at the Station, where there is a general trading carried on with the farmer—buying whatever he has to offer and selling Feed and General Merchandise; the object being to work for the benefit of the District, which is a splendid dairying one. One Store well looks after the workers in the Brickyards and Mines, the other the farming community a mile distant.

A freight service on this line gathers up mill produce for the transcontinental lines which are in conjunction with the electric line at Abbotsford.

To cope with the huge amount of milk and cream, meats and fruits that are sent daily to Vancouver and New Westminster, a special baggage and express train is run into town in the morning, returning in the evening with city goods and evening papers, and a second mail delivery. The big Coast papers containing late war and foreign news are out in this district in less than three hours from the moment of printing, market prices can be had daily, there is no lack of news or delay in transmission, when three dailies from Vancouver, a daily and weekly from New Westminster and two local weeklies issuing from Mission and Abbotsford weekly, circulates through the community.

HAPPY OLD TIMES WERE SLOW

Before the advent of railroads or the invention of motor cars this district depended upon the river for transportation and still a cheaper and easier, if slower, freight and passenger service is available by the steamer plying the river between New Westminster and Chilliwack. Cattle can be shipped with greater ease and comfort this way, and for Fridays, the day of the Westminster market, the boat is loaded with miscellaneous farm stock ranging from squabs to Clydesdales. At "Riverside", too, where the boat calls, is a government ferry running every forty minutes across to Mission City. This ferry transfers passengers, autos, and has lately been supplied with a larger boat capable of accommodating loads of hay.

SOCIAL AND BUSINESS INTERCOURSE EASY

The gauge of progress in any country or community lies in its facilities for intercourse, social and commercial. Judged by this standard, Matsqui Municipality has opportunities for advancement above any other settlement in the country. Whether by rail, road or river, the public can travel in any direction with ease and freedom. Little over two hours separates the farmer from the cities of the Coast. Each railroad has of necessity its telegraph and telephone communications and furthermore the B.C. Telephone Co. has spread a network of phones through the valley, rivalled in Matsqui district by two or more local systems, annihilating altogether that sense of isolation which the farmer's family so often dreads.

ELECTRIC LIGHT AND MOTOR POWER

Another city convenience, electric light and power, is enjoyed by many who live near the B.C.E. Railway line, and this advantage will be spread over a much greater area as the country opens up. A huge power plant situate north of the Fraser at Stave Lake, runs a power line of high voltage through the municipality serving the cities of Sumas and Bellingham, in the States, with power and light. As soon

FOR SALE

The Glen Valley Land Co., Ltd.

Offers its land in blocks of

**10 and 20 Acres and upward
at \$50 per acre**

And upwards on very easy terms of payment, viz., 10 per cent. cash, balance 6, 7, and 8 years. Interest at 6 per cent.

The land is situated near County Line station, Beaver River station, Jackman station, Lombard station, Bradner station on B. C. Electric Railway, and near Glen Valley station on the Canadian Northern Railway.

The land is of good quality and has been logged off.

For further particulars apply—

E. E. RAND & FOWLER, LTD.

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B. C. Agents for the Glen Valley Land Company, Limited.

as sufficient patrons offer themselves this power company will install transformers and sell electric energy along its route.

So by its climatic conditions and physical features, by its mechanical service and its co-operative spirit in local government this municipality offers every inducement that fair-minded settlers could wish for, and it is, of course, fair-minded folk that the community wish to welcome.

Matsqui Municipality provides all that can be reasonably expected in a rural district in the way of social life. In another part of this booklet it has been shown how the British Columbia Railway Company has brought the great centres of New Westminster and Vancouver to within a short journey of home, but Matsqui is not without its own centres, and each centre has its own particular attraction.

Although Abbotsford is not actually in the Matsqui district, the farmers nearly all use the charming little town as a business centre, where they do their banking, and attend to the business side of farm life. There is a fine comfortable hotel, where the finest of farm produce finds its way to the table, and where farmers can meet and discuss crop prospects. Besides the Royal Bank, there are several stores of various descriptions, and a creamery, to which a large portion of the produce of the district finds its way. Abbotsford has its own hospital, and three railway stations, all within a short distance of one another. There is a fine hall, known as the Alexandria, where the Abbotsford Football Club gives during the winter a series of very enjoyable dances, which are attended by all the countryside.

Clayburn is yet another centre of importance, as besides being a manufacturing centre, it is the home of the Clayburn Social and Dramatic Society. This society has staged, from time to time, some very excellent productions, and the last performance given was "The Private Secretary," the acting being quite as good as anything seen in the Old Country. Clayburn residents are also enthusiastic tennis players, and given to all day picnics in the woods, so with good and safe skating in the winter, there is plenty of good, healthy amusement for the person suffering with ennui.

The Municipal Hall and grounds are situated at Mt. Lehman, and the Matsqui Farmers' Institute gives an annual picnic here, when all the district meet under the shady trees, and enjoy a luxurious time. It is a hill or upland centre, as is Bradner, which is a typical English village.

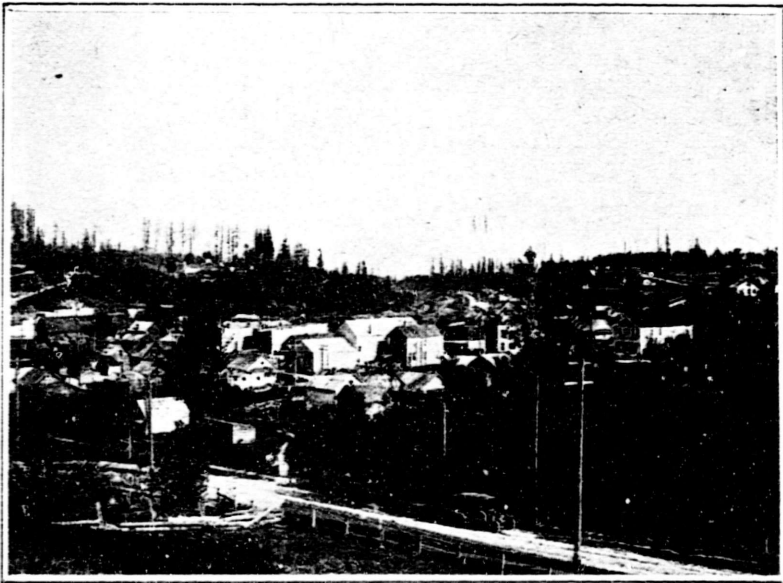
The village of Matsqui is situated on the prairie, and is not without many attractions. The Agricultural Hall where the annual fair and show is held, is at Gifford. Ridgedale, Peardonville, Aberdeen, Dunach and Poplar are other charming country centres, leaving a big choice for the selection of a home.

MATSQUI HAS CHURCHES IN PLENTY

No one should be wicked in Matsqui, as there are no less than eleven churches. The Anglican churches are to be found at Abbots-

ford, and Bradner, while the Presbyterian church centres are Aberdeen, Pine Grove, Mt. Lehman, Abbotsford, Clayburn and Straiton.

The remaining three churches are in the village of Matsqui, the Swedish Methodist, the Swedish Lutheran, and the Swedish Baptist. The churches all have their attendant Ladies' Aids, while Clayburn and Abbotsford have also Missionary Societies. Church workers are very active, and there has lately been a ten days' mission conducted



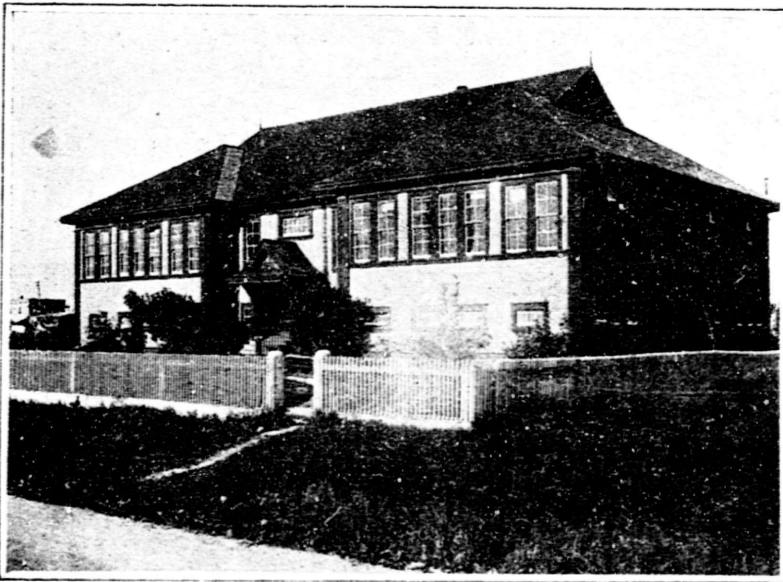
VIEW OF ABBOTSFORD, B. C.

Though considered the market centre of the surrounding district, the thriving town of Abbotsford is not situated in the municipality of Matsqui. It is situated on the eastern boundary of Matsqui, and also adjoins Sumas municipality, and is one of the tracts of land in the Fraser Valley reserved by the Provincial Government for townsite purposes.

at Abbotsford by the American Presbytery, which has drawn big congregations. The Ladies' Aids give many entertainments during the winter months, and are invaluable to the social life of the district. It may, or may not, be the number of churches in the district, but serious crime is hardly known, and the entire cost of the Police Department in 1918 did not amount to \$150.00. It has been said that half a farmer's troubles are over, when he finds a church to get married in, and the baby baptized, and much of the second half, when he can find a good school to send the children to.

SCHOOLS ARE NOT TO BE EXCELLED

There are no less than ten schools operating at present. They are situated at Aberdeen, Bradner, Clayburn, Dunach, Glenmore, Matsqui, Mt. Lehman, Peardonville, Poplar and Ridgedale. Salaries paid to teachers in 1918 amounted to \$14,076.00. There is a very efficient School Board, which spares itself no trouble to get the very best teachers that can be procured and all the teachers in the Matsqui Municipality are thoroughly competent, and well tried at the work. A small instance of the keen interest taken in the children by



MATSQUI HIGH SCHOOL

No municipality of its size and age can boast of better schools and school accommodation than the corporation of Matsqui. The above cut of the High School, situated in the Village of Matsqui, conveys an idea of the splendid class of modern buildings that have been erected in this municipality for educational purposes.

the school trustees is afforded in the proposal to strike a Peace Commemoration Medal for the children of the Fraser Valley. This proposal emanated from the Matsqui School Board, which is giving a special prize for the best design of the medal made by a school child. The design is to be characteristic of the Fraser Valley, in which Matsqui is situated, holding the proud position of the youngest and yet most prosperous municipality. There are at present ten schools under the control of the School Board, which is elected by popular vote, each trustee serving a term of years, when he retires, and is either re-elected, as is often the case, or someone takes his place. As

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ABBOTSFORD, :: B. C.

The Royal Bank of Canada

HEAD OFFICE—MONTREAL

Capital Paid up and Reserve, \$30,000,000

Total Assets over \$420,000,000

490 Branches in Canada and Newfoundland

Abbotsford, B. C., Branch

Savings Department. Drafts and Money Orders Sold

Special attention to Banking by mail and joint accounts

Safety Deposit Boxes

each trustee takes his place on the board in rotation, the board is never left entirely to new members, and so stability in the working of the board is established.

Great care is taken of the health of the little pupils, as it is now thoroughly understood that a child suffering from some unnoticed ailment is very seriously handicapped in the race of life, and is often blamed for being lazy, when the little one is just ill. Defective eyesight is among the most common causes of a child's failure at school, and badly lighted rooms have often a great tendency to create such a trouble. The Matsqui school buildings are modern, and the children are all medically inspected.

There is a very excellent High School at Matsqui village, which gives many of the younger residents a chance of finishing their education in their own home district unless they have decided to go on to the University, in which case it is only a question of about a couple of hours run to Vancouver from Mt. Lehman, which makes it possible for a University student to frequently visit his or her parents.

The number of schools is only limited by the population, as it is possible to have a school, whenever there is a request for it from the residents, and there are twelve children to attend. There must, of course, be a reasonable distance between the schools, but it does not matter how far out-lying the district may be, and whenever there are the requisite number of pupils, a school can be built. Want of good schools need deter no one from settling in the Matsqui Municipality, for what ever can be done to add to the comfort of the scholars, or add to the efficiency of the educational training, is done unstintingly. Few municipalities have a better system or a more efficient board of trustees.

TELEPHONE SERVICE BRINGS CITY TO SETTLER

In the present days, the telephone is an essential to the farmer's comfort, as it brings the doctor to his doorstep in case of urgent need, while it gives him the privilege of speaking to the veterinarian, the seedsman, the broker, the local store and post office, and his next door neighbor. In former days many precious hours and days were lost for want of the telephone, which is now to be found in all farm-houses. Matsqui is well supplied in this direction, as the Huntingdon Rural Telephone Company, Limited, has a line to Abbotsford, which is being run through to connect with the Mission City Telephone Company, which runs to Clayburn. Peardonville is shortly to be connected up, and it will not be long before the entire district is on some telephone wire. With the possibility of a telephone service, electric light, and electrical machinery, the Matsqui farmer, or settler, has little real hardship to contend with, in fact he lives in luxury in comparison with the farmer of former years. The Matsqui Municipality is nothing if it is not go-ahead, and more has been achieved in its short life than in the long life of many of the neighboring corporations.

SHEEP RAISING IN **MATSQUI**

Nowhere on this continent are conditions better for sheep raising than in this municipality. The logged off uplands provide excellent range and the mild winters bring ewes to lambing time in good health and condition. Last year I sold April lambs in September for \$20 each; ewes, and \$14.20 wethers; grade stock. Ewes have come through the present winter up to the end of February practically without hand feed.

I can sell some tracts of logged land, good red loam, at from \$20 to \$30 per acre. Some with buildings and other improvements.

H. O. Hartley

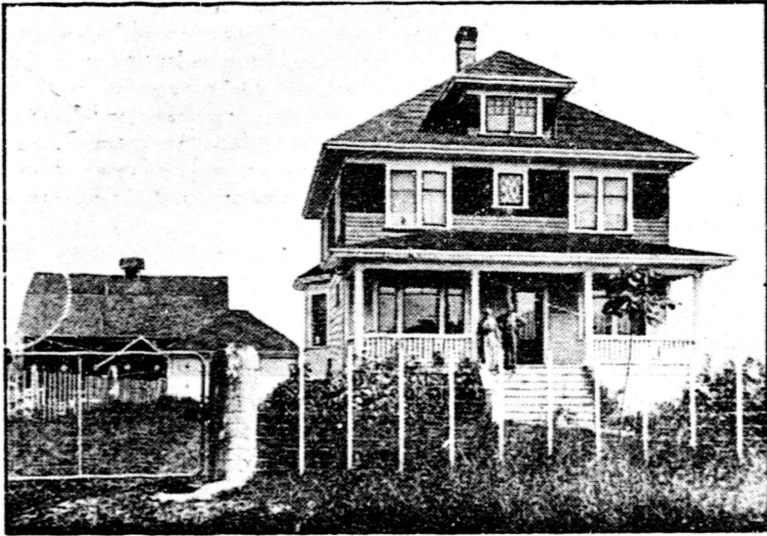
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SPORT AND FISHING EXCELLENT IN MATSQUI

"A little nonsense, now and then, is relished by the wisest men," says the old-time couplet, and there is no doubt that life without some relaxation would be as meat without salt. There is not a man living, who is a man, who has not, at some time or other, enjoyed a day with the rod or the gun. The settler can have a day off for shooting or fishing. Quite a number of men picture a farm, where they can get off occasionally for a few hours and either shoot or fish. To such men, Matsqui says, "Come." It is not everyone who can take up a gun and bang over a couple of brace of pheasants before dinner, but the Matsqui farmer has that privilege during one month of the year,



A TYPICAL FARM HOME IN MATSQUI MUNICIPALITY

or as regulated by the Game Department. He has a longer time to shoot ducks, and in many cases, he can often get a shot from his own barn door. The ducks were around Clayburn last winter in hundreds. This last season both pheasants and ducks seemed almost too plentiful, and at the close of the open seasons there did not appear to be any great diminution in the numbers of the birds. Here again the position of Matsqui lends itself to all kinds of possibilities. It is only a short run on the British Columbia Electric Railway to Sumas Prairie, where there are 50,000 acres of land to shoot over, should the home shooting have grown stale. There is always a good bag of ducks to be got by the good shot at Sumas, but Matsqui is quite good enough for the ordinary man, and there are more pheasant on the Matsqui prairie than at Sumas. In the up-lands, should one so wish it, there is a bear or so to be shot, although these fine animals are not danger-

ous, and are easily scared. The bears keep more to the heavy timber, and are not often seen except by lumbermen, and those in outlying places, where a bear will occasionally take up his residence in an orchard. Should a bear decide to lease an orchard without paying for it, there is much joy among the neighbors, who proceed to work up several scares, and a big bear drive, with the result that Bruin generally beats it to safety in spite of the many guns let off in the confusion of his hurried exit. It is sport, nevertheless, and helps to make life in the country.

To the angler, who knows his way about, there are several good places in Matsqui, and unlike so many other places in the Fraser Valley, he will not find a dozen other men on his ground, although fishing is good from end to end of the Fraser, and very good trout is run equi-distant from Matsqui district. Anglers from Vancouver will spend half a day in the car to fish in the Vedder River, while the man from Matsqui can catch a basketful and be home before they have thrown their first casts. He can reach any other good fishing ground equally easily, should he so desire, in fact the ardent angler could have no better home than at Matsqui, as he has every advantage. Cut-throat and steel-head are the common trout, while there are young coho salmon in the Fraser River.

INDUSTRIES

Although one may not be actively engaged in anything but farming, it is a pleasant feeling to know that there is life and action within a few miles, and all good farmers remember the minutes they waste in watching the smoke from a distant train.

In Matsqui, the farmer can see the smoke rising from the tall chimneys of the Clayburn Company, where fire-bricks, sewer pipes and all such articles are being manufactured. There are between eighty and ninety men employed at the works, and the company is extending its plant. Bricks and lumber are both available for the use of the Matsqui farmer.

The Abbotsford Lumber, Mining and Development Company will supply all the farmer's needs for years to come, as it has enough standing timber to run the mill for the next twenty years.

The work of the creameries has already been described, and it might be as well to mention that there is also the Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association, which protects its members from big American syndicates who could dictate to the small farmer, but who are powerless before the farmers' combination. Last year many of the Matsqui farmers were shipping to Sardis, where there was a cheese factory. A cheese factory could easily be established in Matsqui.

FORTUNES IN SEED-GROWING

In conclusion, there is an industry, which has not as yet been taken up in Matsqui, but which will, sooner or later, become one of the most important undertakings in the district. British Columbia has

won for herself the name of being the Seed Garden of Canada, and already large orders for seed are being placed by Eastern provinces. Lately an order was received for fifty ton of sugar beet seed, and all orders for carrot, mangold and other seed were in tons. Matsqui can grow the best seed in the whole of British Columbia. This is an industry, which is replete with interest to the man, who takes it up, and should not be overlooked by the Old Country gardeners and Prairie farmers who are looking for something more than the ordinary routine of farm work. No greater proof of the suitability of Matsqui can be afforded than a trip through the district, when the foxglove is in blossom, or when the brilliant fireweed colors the landscape mile after mile.

