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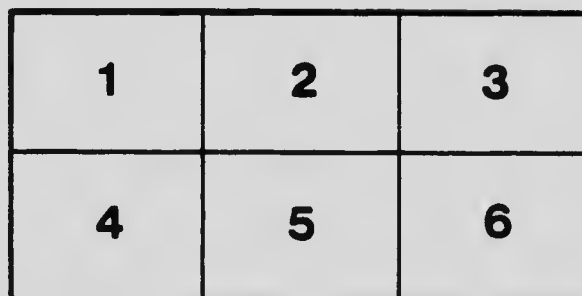
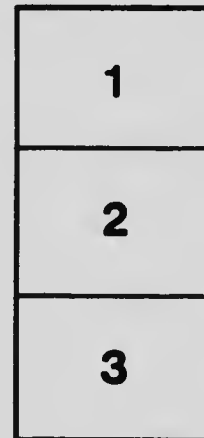
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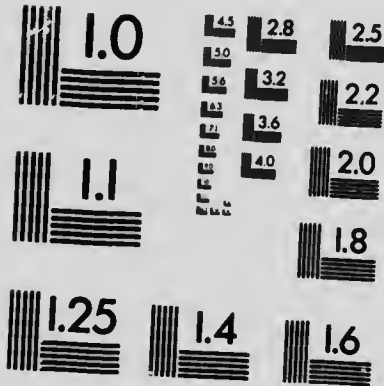
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LANGLEY

British Columbia

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Lower Fraser Valley, Offering Excep-
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Farming and Dairying

Community Advantages and
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LANGLEY

ITS INDUSTRIAL, LUMBERING AND
AGRICULTURAL ADVANTAGES

A Fraser Valley Municipality, situated on the South Shore
of the Fraser River, ten miles east of
New Westminster.

Area, 75,532 Acres; Having an Assessed Value
of \$3,502,443

POPULATION—3,300

Administered by Reeve and Council of Six Members

Reeve—D. W. POPPY

Councillors—Ward 1, J. W. Bray; Ward 2, W. M. S.
Bodaly; Ward 3, J. W. Harris; Ward 4, J. R.
Brydon; Ward 5, Duncan Buie; Ward 6,
A. K. Goldsmith.

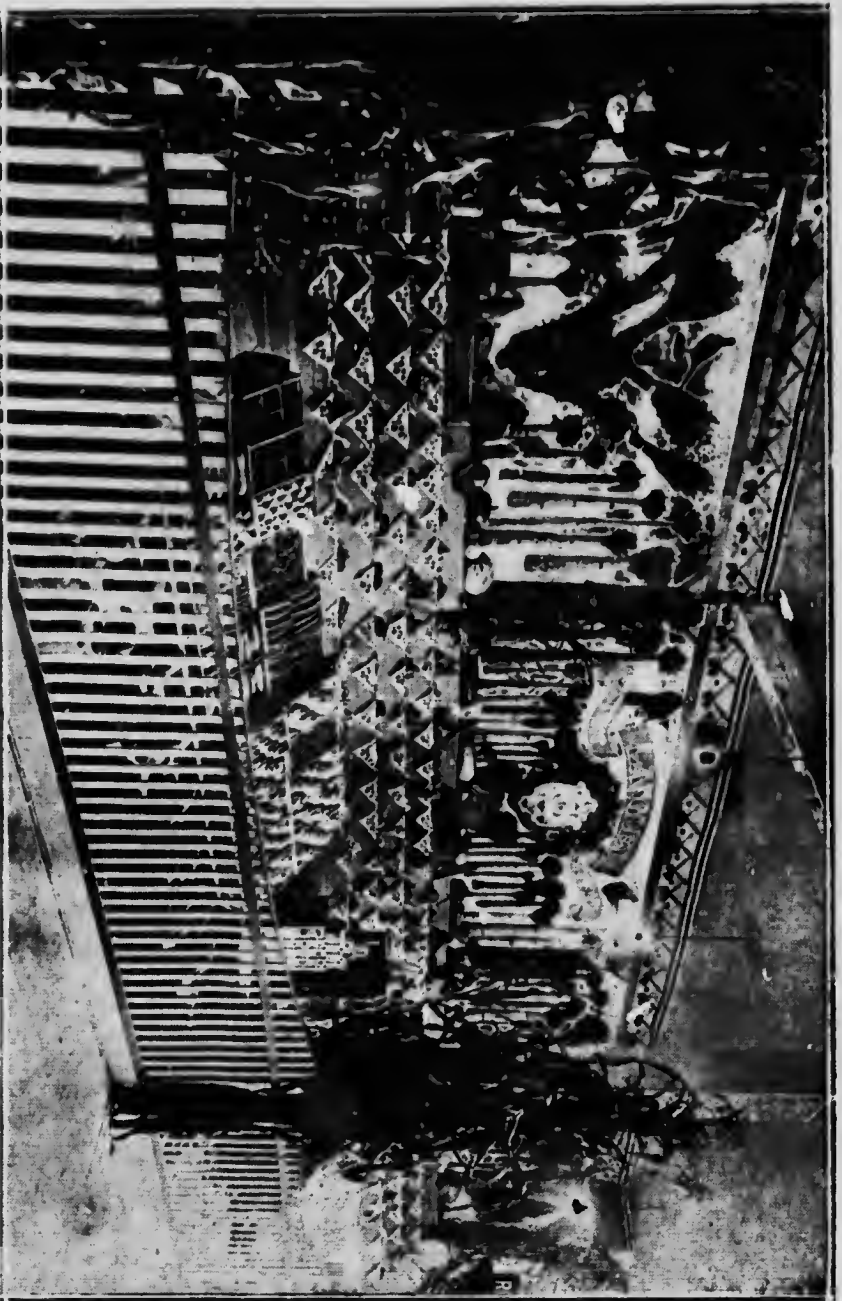
Clerk of the Municipality—Lieut. R. A. Payne, M.C.

Municipal Assessor—Finlay Maspherson.

Municipal Engineer—J. T. Breckon

MUNICIPAL HALL AND CLERK'S OFFICE
Murrayville, B. C.

For further information regarding Langley, write the
Clerk of the Municipal Council, Murrayville, B. C., or
the Secretary of the Langley Board of Trade,
Langley Prairie, B. C.



LANGLEY DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL EXHIBIT AT THE NEW WESTMINSTER PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION, 1919.

Langley won the Dewar Shield, emblematic of the Best Agricultural Display, first in the year 1905, and again in the years 1911, 1912 and 1913, and the exhibit pictured above failed by only ten points to retain for the Municipality this coveted trophy.

LANGLEY

FROM the first, Langley was a farm. Before the fir had drawn the lumbermen, or fishermen had found the values of the finny denizens of the river, Langley Prairie was provisioning the horses and men who were at work opening up the country.

The old Hudson's Bay factors from the fort found its possibilities, and made there the first farm in the Valley.

No choice of pioneers has been so amply justified. The farm of a hundred years ago is a multitudinous farm today, pouring its productions in seasonal succession into the cities of the coast that have sprung up since. Premier in priority, it has continued to be premier in productivity and is known through the Dominion as premier in quality of its products. From feeding the little Fort settlement of the early days it has enlarged its fences to meet the ever-growing demands of urbanity, and is regarded today as one of the chief garden-patches on which the tables of the town depend.

* * *

This farm-famed district is but ten miles from New Westminster, and twenty-two from Vancouver—within an hour by auto truck with its eggs and milk, and when the aerial express of the near future is operating its fruit can be laid on the restaurant breakfast table before the dew has had time to evaporate.

The south bank of the Fraser makes a dyke-fence on the north—the fence on the south is but an imaginary one, though of stern reality to officials of Customs and Immigration, and the area thus enclosed by the Charter of the Municipality is about 75,532 acres.

* * *

The home-seeker of the future who comes to Langley to spy out the land could, from an eminence or airplane, see a panorama of varied scenery and activity.

From the river southward he would first notice the old Fort on a rising knoll, now nestling in hoary seclusion among a colony of bright residences that resemble an old country village. Eastward of the Fort will be seen a bay of rich alluvial soil left by an age-old turn of the Fraser, now a pocket of prosperous farms, well described in its name of Glen Valley.

Above the first benches lie the broad black acres of the old prairie, dotted with dairy herds and barns, netted with roads, rails, and wires, gleaming streams winding wantonly, little centres clustered round rail-road stations and road corners, a level plateau of thriving activity.

Southward beyond this he would see the ground rising brown and occasionally gravelly, wherever the timber growth was removed. Little squares cut from the mighty forest would betoken pioneers' clearings, ---acres retaken from primeval Nature and loved the more for the labor they cost.

Smoke and sawdust whirling about at various points in the tall timber would reveal the lumber camps that are turning our native forests into the infinitude of broad dimension required by our modern civilization.

Seeing all this from above, this homeseeker would certainly wish to take a closer view of the prospect, as the terrestrial traveller can take in the details.



THE BELMONT SUPERIOR SCHOOL, LANGLEY.

Langley has splendid school accommodation, and the schools generally are kept up to a high standard.

RAILWAY FACILITIES IN LANGLEY.

Travelling from Vancouver or New Westminster three rail-routes are offered. The Great Northern on its way to join the American railroads at Sumas, keeps to the higher ground above the prairie, and is the great steel highway for the lumbering business.

The Canadian National comes through along the bank of the Fraser with a different end and aim, for this is the newly completed transcontinental connecting Langley direct with all the provinces East to the Atlantic, and what is of more general importance, giving quick transit into town for passengers, eggs, milk and other produce.

This daily train from the river wharves has taken away much of

the river-borne traffic, but the boat service is still of great value, particularly in carrying live-stock and other products to the New Westminster Friday market, the great mart and price maker of the Fraser Valley farmer.

The electric trolley route of the B.C. Electric Railway Co. is the main artery of the Fraser Valley traffic.

With its freight trains, its mail, milk and baggage expresses, it is of the utmost service to the Langley farmer in getting his produce quickly to market.

Three passenger trains run daily each way through the Valley, but an additional morning and evening special goes out as far as this district, and these five trains give the public opportunity to run in to town on urgent business and back again in a few hours. The farmer can thus do his marketing or other business—or pleasure, between chores.

This car line runs right through the heart of the dairy district, and it is significant that on its twelve miles of railroad through the municipality, there are twelve milk and flagging stations.

* * *

WELL SERVED BY MAIN HIGHWAYS.

Roads are the arteries of a country through which its vital energy courses, and the ruggedness of this province combined with the heavily timbered areas of the coast district, cause this problem of road-building to be the most difficult in all departments of public works. Difficult, laborious and expensive, is this important work. For many years the only means of transportation in the Fraser Valley was by river.

There are men in Langley today who at one time drove a yoke of oxen ten miles down "Telegraph Trail" to the wharf at Fort Langley, to which a consignment of supplies had been shipped from Westminster. Shipping charges would amount to twenty dollars, then there was the long, slow trekking home again—a day's hard labor in those ten long miles.

That was less than thirty years ago. Today there are 250 miles of roads in this municipality, a development almost incredible! Some of this mileage consists of single wagon-trails through the bush to isolated farms, and some includes the best road surfaces of the country.

The old Yale Road, kept up by the Provincial Government, is the first road of the province, both in condition and history. It is nowhere better than in this district. So great is traffic upon it that there is scarcely a moment during the day when a motor car is not in sight at any given point.

All roads in the Fraser Valley lead to the Yale road. Other roads are tributary, but several in Langley will bear comparison and rank only second to it. The Town-line Road, the Langley Road with

several others are kept in good preservation by a diligent council. Road metal is readily available from the numerous gravel pits situate at strategic points in the Municipality, timbers can be had at first hand from the neighboring mills.

The farmer is proverbially shrewd in the purchase of machinery, and the fact that at a farmer's picnic last year at Glen Valley, over two hundred automobiles were lined up on the adjacent roads, proves that there are serviceable roads, on which to run these machines.

* * *

Motor owners must have means to purchase and time to enjoy them, both signs of evolution from the old pioneer who labored from sun-up to sun-down, doing his chores in the dark.



THE YALE HIGHWAY PASSING THROUGH MURRAYVILLE.

The old interprovincial highway gives first-class road facilities through the central sections of Langley.

Today he works with better appliances to better profit, whatever branch of farming he may be following.

Whatever the branch, it proceeds from one trunk that is the "increase of the earth," the ability of the soil to raise crops.

The intelligent farmer knows that apart from building roads and other advantages, in the ultimate analysis he is buying soil when he buys a farm.

He could buy any kind of soil he desired in Langley.

The timber lands in the higher benches to the south are the glacial drift of by-gone ages and gravel beds of the river that once covered the whole Valley.

FRUIT PRODUCTION IS VARIED.

Generations of woodland growth have mingled a humus with this gravel, converting it into a chocolate loam of high productivity. Excepting the "gravel streaks" where the rocks are on the surface, this loam, friable and responsive, is admirably adapted for mixed farming and fruit-growing. To begin with, it is a natural fruit soil. Where centuries of trees have matured and decayed, there is no fear for fruit trees, where the underbrush has run wild with blackberry and black-cap, thimble berry, wild currant and gooseberry there is no hesitation concerning the cultivated varieties. Wild cherry and crab-apple would prove the possibilities for orchards, were such indications needed.

But they are not—for there are orchards here as old as the history of the Province, and the history of Provincial exhibits proves the character of this fruit that is here raised.

A grape vine, open to the elements, is hanging over the woodshed belonging to Reeve Poppy, that has borne its ripe clusters for twenty-nine years, its only reward being the random chips from the wood-block!

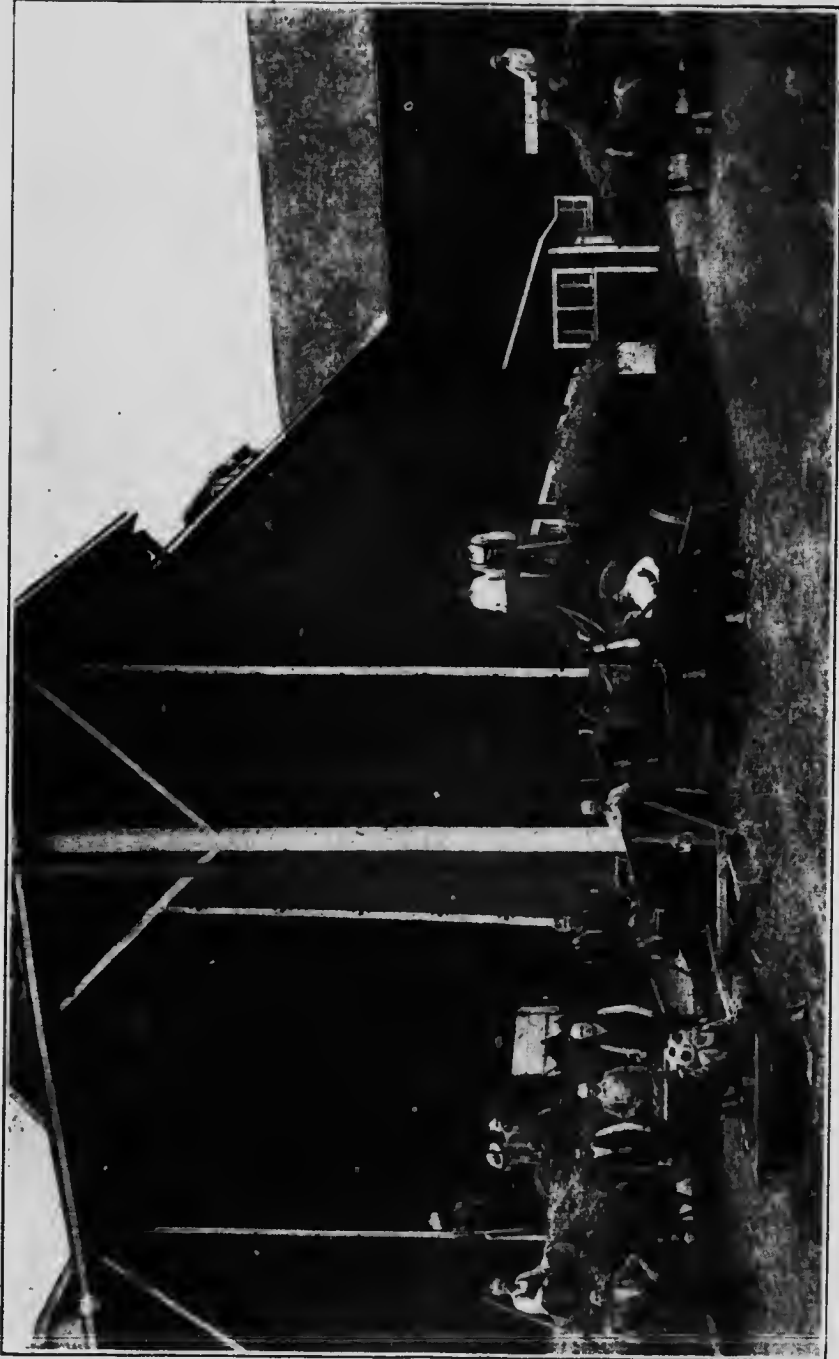
In oats, one and a half tons of grain can be raised to the acre, plump kernels of good weight, and this region, particularly round Aldergrove, is gaining renown for its potatoes. Appreciating the value of selected seed, the potato-growers can market named varieties, uniform in size and color, clean and sound, with excellent keeping qualities, and this is the only vegetable shipped from the district, all other crops are sold after assimilation by cows, hens and hogs. They travel better, fetch better prices and leave better residue, thus than if sent straight out of the fields!

With special care in cultivation and fertilizer, a record crop of sixteen tons to the acre has been raised in the Aldergrove district; the average will run about twelve tons.

As in other parts of the Valley, this bench land has a natural clover soil. Two cuttings can be made of the ordinary red variety, totalling four tons of the finest cattle hay per acre.

It may be said here that this acre of clover will carry two cows through the winter, two tons per head being the estimate of the cattleman, who is left usually with a surplus from that provision.

The high-land farmer then grows his crops to suit his stock. Oats rye and barley for grain-feeding, ensilage of peas, vetch or corn for wintering milch cows, roots adding succulence to the hay, and vegetables and fruits for home use. It is in the sale of the surplus of these



A WAR-TIME ENSILAGE CUTTING SCENE IN LANGLEY

How Langley farmer co-operated to fill their silos in one of the years of the war when there were so many of the boys called from the farm to fight for the Empire.

that the farmers vary, for rotation of crop is practised, but the main source of income is from the dairy and its by-products.

THE HOME OF THE BIG MILCH COW.

The average farmer is cultivating less land than he owns. The lumber man, who takes off the first "crop," the conifers, leaves stumps and wastage behind him which the on-coming farmer must clean up. Clearing this land is slow and heavy work, each year's winnings from the wild must be put into crop, and these crops be cultivated. consequently the bush farm is one of ever-widening limits. The uncleared portion is not left idle for that would be worse than useless, seeing how quickly the bush grows up. So it is burnt over, seeded and used for pasture. By browsing and grazing about the logs and stumps the hardy animals pick up good feeding of excellent variety, and make the "bush" contribute to the cream cheque.



RESIDENCE OF J. W. BERRY, ESQ.

One of the most beautiful homes in Langley, situated on the Yale road, midway between Langley Prairie and Murrayville.

The type of cow best fitted for this life is the Ayrshire, with grades of Guernsey and Jersey. These lighter breeds thrive on the varied feeding, get about better than the heavier milk-producers, winter more easily, and with a higher percentage of butter-fat, give better returns in cream.

Shippers of cream make less trips to the station and have the separated milk for hogs and young stock. This means more balanced farming and greater fertility in the soil. The "run-out" farm is unknown for these methods make for richer ground year by year.

The bench lands occupy practically the southern half of the Municipality, little of it lying north of the Yale Road.

Below is the prairie proper, the home of the big milch cow.

Lying diagonally across its level plain and divided exactly by the B.C.E. Ry. line, is the outline of the old Hudson's Bay Farm, of 2,000 acres, plotted long before sections and townships were thought of here.

The men of the trading fort on the river had seen this good land and organized themselves to tap its resources. Instead of importing provender, human and equine, from the south, they could raise their own—more, they began to export it, and for years after, the incoming settlers sold grain and hay for the coast and upper country.

It is a matter of history that Langley grain was shipped to Europe to feed the British Army in the Crimean War.

The names of those old Hudson's Bay factors and farmers are carried into the present. The best known, perhaps, is that of Wark. Mr. R. Wark, reeve 1913-1918, being a nephew of a factor of the same name who held the Fort in the old trading days.

HOME FARM DISTRICT OF THE CITIES

The rise of the coast cities opened markets for products more perishable—and more lucrative than grain. A city, like a big house, needs a home farm and garden, Langley became the "home farm" of New Westminster and Vancouver, a position never lost, though others have been added to meet the ever-growing demand.

The big H.B. farm was sub-divided, homesteads were staked about it, the pioneers of what is now Murrayville and Aldergrove poured down their farm stuff to the wharves at the Fort, eggs and butter, chickens and cheese, mutton, pork, fruit and vegetables, in a daily stream.

The only change in the output today is the increased quantity of all excepting the cheese, and in its place roll scores of cans of sweet milk and cream. To the rolling of these cans are all the energies of the "prairie" farmer bent. His crops of roots, his grain and ensilage, his hay and pastures, all are made contributory to that end. His pure-blood stock, pedigreed and tested, his hygienic barns and mechanical appurtenances, his lavish expense in buildings and equipment, all done that more and yet more of those cans of milk may roll to town.

The dairy-barns, brightly painted, with silos standing like church steeples beside them, are pictures of prosperity. The Holstein cows, heavy and complacent, all pictures of contentment, alternating only between feeding and resting, responsible for nothing but the unconscious transformation of grass and other succulence into milk.

That great farmer's "combine," the Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association, has here one of its strongest centres. "All there is in it" comes back to the producer, either in monthly cheque or bonus. There is no fear of over supply for condenseries are waiting for the daily surplus, and as the coast cities grow, so will the market.

So the dairy farmer is awake to his opportunities, his watchword is "improvement." The "best cow" has but a short reign—only until a better producer is found. There is stock here from the record makers of Canada, and the Mufford Bros. have one of their own in test this year that is expected to strike a new mark.

It is considered to be a poor cow that does not net its owner ten dollars a month over its keep, or a hundred dollars per year. This, of course, does not include labor, but as the several side-lines that go with dairying will take care of interest and depreciation, the profit of dairying may easily be reckoned. The best dairymen would be far from content with such "poor cows", however.



HISTORIC FORT LANGLEY

View of the old Hudson's Bay Post at Fort Langley as it exists today. This was the beginning of Langley as a big productive farm.

Good cows require good feed, and in this area they get it. One cutting of hay will yield three tons per acre. An acre of turnips will run from 25 to 40 tons, and potatoes, with two men grow in the same manner, have varied from eight tons under poor management and adverse season to eighteen when all things were favorable.

Oats, the other main crop, will make a yield nearer two tons than one to the acre.

Good water is as essential as good feed, and it would be expected that level country below bench land would have a reasonable number of springs and creeks, but the visitor is scarcely prepared for the gushing streams that surge perennially from artesian wells all over the country. Nature's waterworks, needing only pipes to guide it where the owner wills! By inserting a ram it can be raised to overhead

cisterns; this means hot and cold water in the house without pump or engine.

The big streams and small creeks give easy natural drainage to west and north.

* * *

Nearer the river the soil characteristics change again. The land is younger, geographically; there are beds of gravel here and there, peat deposits, brown and porous, black alluvium, finest of all soils; also a mixture of decomposed mossy vegetation and mud, that is rich to any depth.

* * *

Soil, water and climate are the Providential side of the farmer's partnership with Nature. The Fraser Valley climate is known to be unsurpassed in Canada for mildness and equability. The temperature varies from 90 degrees in summer to zero in winter and these extremes are but seldom touched. Rains and abundant precipitation are slightly less than at Vancouver. Cool breezes and cool evenings in summer, and not often is there over a foot of snow in winter.

No stock, but milch cows, is housed for more than three months. The plough is inactive for a not longer period.

POULTRY RAISING PROFITABLE.

With an insatiable market close at hand, expert poultrymen have not allowed the production of eggs to be altogether a side-line on the farm. Many of them work exclusively with their hens and chicks; work demanding close application, enthusiasm, and no mean standard of intelligence, but given these it is most lucrative.

It has been remarked that with so many small holders raising chickens around Langley Fort, it would be easy to obtain occasional help for road-building, etc., but the opposite obtains. These men are reluctant to leave their poultry for the \$3.00 per day road labor, or the much higher pay of the lumber camp.

This is proof enough of its success. Poultry keepers are not all masculine; several ladies are following the cult with profit. The industry is second only to dairying, and its size may be gathered from the fact that one business man alone collects twenty cases per week from Langley Fort. Others are sent by express to town.

The chicken folk have recently organized a strong and vigorous association for the buying and selling of their substance.

These are the men of the gravelly soils, where good drainage, dry runs and clover sod make ideal conditions. Here they combine the two affinities—chickens and fruit, in remunerative harmony. Some of them claim profits averaging two dollars per hen, some more, some say "\$1.75," to be conservative, and their flocks are usually from 250 to 300 layers.

All the fruits of temperate regions can be grown here, including peaches and grapes. Bunches of the latter are gathered weighing two pounds each. Estimates and figures kept for two years show that a patch of strawberries at Fort Langley produced in 1917, \$1,300 per acre, and \$1,200 in 1918.

Onions and apples are seen thriving on the same ground, an unusual combination. Some years ago a man, sixty years of age, came from indoor-work and started without much previous experience to grow flowers and fruits. On less than two acres he began propagating his bush fruits, training his strawberries to runners, keeping pure bred chickens, and advertising! He succeeded from the first, and his orders now amount to \$50 daily.

When the fruits of Langley are gathered in exhibition there is a goodly show, and Langley excels in exhibitions.



PRETTY HOMES IN LANGLEY.

These cottages, near the Municipal Hall, Murrayville, overlook the prairie lands of Langley and are typical of many pleasantly situated residences in the municipality.

FIELD DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL TROPHY.

It was 27 years ago, at least, that the Langley Agricultural Association was formed, with B. Gardner as its President and A. Brockie as Secretary. A "Fair" was then started, first held at Glenwood, in 1896 moved to Fort Langley, in 1918 brought up to new grounds and hall at Milner. When, in 1905, the New Westminster Fair managers offered a substantial prize for the best "District" exhibit of local and general produce from the farm, Langley entered the competition, taking first prize. This was a Dominion Exhibition, and the value of Langley's display being recognized at once by the Government, it was purchased to go on tour, and had the honor of carrying British Columbia's reputation to Chicago and other Eastern cities.

For competition in these district displays, the Dewar Shield had

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(Established over 100 years)

Capital	- - - - -	\$20,000,000
Rest	- - - - -	\$20,000,000

The Bank of Montreal through its chain of branches in the Fraser Valley can be of assistance to settlers present and prospective.

Accounts of farmers either opened in person or through the mail receive the same care and attention as those of the largest manufacturing enterprises.

**BRANCHES at Chilliwack, Cloverdale, Ladner
and Langley Prairie**

SAVINGS DEPARTMENT AT ALL BRANCHES

been given that year, an honored trophy won first by Langley, since lost and again captured, for Chilliwack and Surrey came furiously into the fray, and Langley was backed to second place, but in 1911 the shield returned to its first home; 1912 and 1913 only enhanced the superiority of Langley, and as no fair was held during the war, the shield still hung at Milner. The competition in 1919 was keen and Langley lost the shield to Richmond Municipality but only by ten points.

* * *

Any other municipality is content with one district Fair and one Agricultural Association, but about eight years ago the Aldergrove



ONE OF THE COMFORTABLE FARM HOMES OF LANGLEY.

The Municipality is a well settled district with well appointed residences, both in the rural sections and in the trading centres.

people decided they had interest and distinction enough to support a separate Fair, and their decision has been justified by its popularity. So far live stock have been eliminated, but in field and garden produce they lose nothing by comparison with the older exhibition. The distance between the Fort at the north-west and Aldergrove at the south-east of the Municipality, with difference of agricultural conditions, may account for the rival associations.

* * *

Aldergrove is one of the very old settlements, older than the Yale Road that is now its main thoroughfare. The Shortreefs, Vanettas

The Royal Bank of Canada

(INCORPORATED 1869)

Capital Paid up and Reserves \$34,000,000
 Total Assets - - - - - \$493,000,000

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SAVINGS DEPARTMENT

Langley Prairie, B. C.

Milner, B. C.

Langley Fort, B. C.

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A RESIDENT OF THE DISTRICT FOR FORTY-FIVE YEARS

and Goldsmiths, its old-timers, have watched and assisted its development from the days when they hewed a home from the thick trees, to this day when motor jitneys connect them with town every few hours. One of those homes, increasing in beauty as trailing creepers enfold it and big trees give it shade, is a monument of pioneer endeavor, for saving the flooring. Not a board in the house is sawn! All the beams, boarding, roofing and finishing are of split cedar, smoothed and fitted with artistic effect. Phillip Jackman, one of the original "sappers," is still located in this neighborhood. About twenty-five homes comprise this settlement. There are two public halls, stores, graded school and church. South Aldergrove, or "Patricia," is a young off-shoot, with a church and school of its own.

A thriving Farmers' Institute, uniting the farming interests, has a membership of 125, and is effective in co-operative trading and instruction. Blasting powder to the amount of \$5,000 was handled by this Association in 1918, to the ultimate destruction of hundreds of stubborn stumps.

The G.N. and B.C.E. Railways carry from here much cream and butter with eggs, meats and fruits, and on the comfortable returns from these the district thrives.

* * *

At the present time several borings are being made for oil about Aldergrove, experts claiming that the indications are extremely favorable for this deposit. When the oil-bearing shales are struck a transformation of the industrial conditions may be expected.

* * *

Westward along the Yale Road from Aldergrove is the Public Hall of Otter, built twenty-five years ago by the public spirited people of the neighborhood. A post-office and school make a little social centre, midway between Aldergrove and Murrayville.

LANGLEY'S THRIVING COMMUNITIES.

Murrayville is the municipal "capital" of the district. Here is the Municipal Hall with Council Chamber, Clerk's, Engineer's and School Secretary's offices, and the Council room is the Municipal Court of Justice. Divided into six wards, the Municipality is governed by six Councillors and Reeve, who meet once or twice in the month, employing a civil engineer, who has all roads and bridges under constant supervision.

Indicating the progress of the country, a recent by-law places jitneys under registration and municipal control as to speed and overcrowding.

Another bylaw makes the municipality a "sheep protection district" for the better defence of sheep-owners against dogs. Several owners of flocks are located here, showing the adaptation of the country to sheep, which are unrivalled for cleaning up the land. That they were not more popular heretofore was owing to the quicker returns from cows and hens.

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MURRAYVILLE, B.C.

Toys Made by Returned Soldier

QUINTIN A. GOSLING, PROP.

Across the road from the Council Hall is Belmont High School, to which superior scholars are conveyed from other quarters. A Presbyterian Church, stores and post-office, a hall belonging to the Progressive Association, a toy factory run by returned soldiers form the heart of this hamlet. The Great War Veterans Association make this a local headquarters as does the Langley Soldiers' Welfare League.

* * *

Two miles below Murrayville is the "Langley Prairie" station on the B.C.E. Ry. Marking the junction of this railroad and the main highway, this little town is fast becoming one of the busiest centres of the Fraser Valley. Jitneys meet all trains for travellers' convenience. Two huge feed and grain warehouses on the track import and distribute these supplies. A nursery firm, with an acre or more of glass-houses, exports salads and fruits, bedding-out plants and flowers, and not getting efficient service in boxes and crates, erected this year a box factory of its own. A bank, hotel, drug store, post-office and theatre stamp it a "town," while stores, schools and garage enhance its convenience. Incoming settlers on sub-divided holdings are putting houses on every field about it.

* * *

Along the track eastward is Milner, with Methodist and Anglican churches, graded schools, store and post-office, and hall which is the headquarters of the Agricultural Association. This is right in the heart of cow land, of meadows that seem to flow with milk.

Honey is here, too. Bee culture is only in its infancy, few men taking it professionally, but to show what can be done, a bee expert undertook to care for eight colonies owned by a man who was doing duty for us overseas. From the eight hives thus carefully attended to 1,450 lbs. of honey were taken in 1918, and one tall pil. yielded 360 lbs.

* * *

Beyond Milner is Jardine, where once a cheese factory stood—now Vancouver needs all the milk. Along the line further are Harmsworth and Sperling, Coghlan and County Line. This is coming again to the tall timbers, where chicken coops vie with the dairy-barns for a place in the sun, and from these points is shipped much timber destined for the Prairie and North West Territories. There are four big lumber mills in the Municipality, with a dozen tie mills, and several mills for the making of shingles. These are making large areas of the country ready for settlement, and it is estimated that it will take them another ten years to cut all the merchantable lumber in this district.

* * *

Northward to the river the land falls into Glen Valley, another great milk-producing centre with its three milk stations on the National Railway, and its three wharves on the river.

What is said to be the finest dyking scheme in B.C. is in operation here, some 2,200 acres of farming land are enclosed in a run that fences out the intruding Fraser. Stories of the quantity of grain,

potatoes and hay raised on this decomposed vegetable soil are suitable more for camp fire yarns than sober print, but a journey through the valley makes them seem credible.

Like other little settlements it has its school and hall and post-office, and what is probably the oldest social gathering in the country districts meets here—The farmer's picnic on the 24th of May.

HISTORIC FORT LANGLEY.

Along the river to the west we reach the starting point, Fort Langley—the starting point of the Fraser Valley settlement. That the original intention was abandoned of making this the Royal City and capital of B.C. was not the fault of Fort Langley, and in no way detracts from its historic interest and loveliness of location.

Round the old Fort has grown a village, on the gravelled bench that is made almost an island by the Salmon River. Some 600 acres comprise the plateau. Fort and depot, wharf and stores, churches, schools and electric street lighting, give the old-time village all modern conveniences. The Fraser never permits its light soil to dry out. It can produce its wonders of fruits and vegetables. Trees planted generations ago shade its walks with soft contentment. The cemetery by the roadside marks names of those heroic pathfinders who built the country, names mingled by marriage down to the children of today, and emblazoned afresh in the war honor rolls that gild its halls.

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General Blacksmithing and
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FLOUR AND FEED.

A. R. ANDERSON, Prop.

Knowing neither poverty nor snobbery, it has a social life of the happiest nature, in its two institutes, clubs and churches. Its homes, set in little acres, are surrounded by vines and fruit trees, innumerable chickens cackling achievement from the background. It would be hard to find in this or any province a community more content and independent.

* * *

Between the home-maker of the Fort with chickens and fruit (probably a woman), the plowing, reaping dairy man of the "prairie" and the mixed farmer of the upper lands, filling his horn of plenty with butter and honey, meats and fruits, lies the invitation to the incoming settler; he may make any single choice, he may fuse any combination of them. Wherever he stakes his lot his success is sure, if he be a worker, for he cannot get far from a road or a depot; wherever he fix his abode, his mail may be had daily, a telephone is within reach, and a school at easy distance.

This is where the parent first looks. In Langley he will take a second look, for he will see unusual efforts made to teach the staple business of the country, garden pots laid out for every child that the principles of seed-life and growth may be demonstrated. An agricultural instructor going from school to school to teach and guide. Sixteen schools with numerous divisions for the educating of the six hundred children, all conveniently situated, and named, surely, by a poetic people, "Glenwood," "Glen Valley," "Springbrook" and "Lochiel." Aldergrove, Otter and Beaver Creek.

EX-SOLDIER LAND SETTLEMENT.

When the Khaki current began flowing westward again and the heroes of No-Man's-Land sought land of their own, more took up land in Langley than in any other district its size. The boys who left here came back to it gladly, others who had but heard of it, "came and saw and settled."

This year of 1919 has seen more land-seekers in Langley than ever before. Langley people think it is because the district is becoming better known, and certainly the welcome they receive is sincere.

For of these 75,000 acres, less than a third are in cultivation, on those acres are but 2,500 people.

Many a farmer owing and paying taxes on 100 acres is only working fifty, he would be glad to have the other 50 taken off his hands—the man also with 10 needs but five for his chickens and fruit. By dividing his holding he both relieves his responsibility and gains a neighbor. The lumber men log off the timbered acres faster than settlers take them up, and on the big cleared farms the hired help difficulty increases, for wages are mounting, and men gain in independence of spirit. A man who can successfully work another's farm or dairy naturally wishes for a farm of his own. We are fast running

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VANCOUVER, - - - - B. C.

to a condition of affairs when no man cares to own more land than he and his family can manage themselves.

This condition, with advanced mechanical appliances, means "one-man farms," and these, in the end, are the most successful. They do not make fortunes, but they make for the highest kind of freedom, the greatest sense of liberty and the greatest sense of fellowship with the world's workers. Calling no man "master," yet serving their community by being productive citizens, such farmers are the most independent persons on earth and in this district, as the old slogan of Langley has it, "A man can put together and enjoy as much of this world's goods as are good for him."



