

MATTSON'S

UPHOLSTERERS AND WOODWORKERS

Greet

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ON THEIR OPENING

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234 3rd Avenue East

INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION (Continued from page 37)

where the rainfall is less and the growing season much shorter.

MIXED FARMING

In the Bulkley Valley mixed farming is the most common practice. It is generally agreed that livestock is the basis of successful farming in the area and the livestock enterprise usually furnishes the largest source of income. Field crops are grown mainly as livestock feed, but in some cases a cash crop such as clover or timothy seed fits well into the crop rotation of a mixed farm.

Within recent years a number of farmers in the Bulkley Valley have started to produce whole milk for the fluid market in Prince Rupert. Dairying is a specialized type of agriculture and requires a large investment in stock, buildings and equipment. For this reason the number of dairy farms is still small but with the Prince Rupert market growing steadily it is expected that milk production will increase quite rapidly within the next few years.

DAIRYING

All dairy farms shipping whole milk are visited periodically by Veterinary Inspectors of the Department of Agriculture who check all cattle for disease and

grade barns and milk houses to make sure that they conform with the required regulations. In addition, Dairy Inspectors and Inspectors of the Department of Health check on the general handling of the milk, including sanitation and cooling facilities. Milk is checked on the farm and again after arrival in Prince Rupert so that everything possible is done to ensure that the consumer receives a product of high quality.

The Dominion Experimental Station at Smithers is doing a great deal to assist farmers to solve their problems. Many cereal varieties are grown at the Station in an effort to find those best suited to the district. Alfalfa and clovers are grown for hay, and tests have shown that these legumes build up the fertility of the soil by adding much needed organic matter, while at the same time yielding three times the forage that is average for the district.

EXPERIMENTAL

A herd of registered Shorthorn cattle at the Experimental Station is used to demonstrate better feeding and management of livestock, and to evaluate the forages and grains grown locally. In addition, young, registered bulls are made available to farmers in an effort to improve the

livestock of the district.

In addition to the Experimental Station at Smithers there are Illustration Stations situated at Houston and Terrace. These Illustration Stations are operated on privately owned properties on the basis of a co-operative agreement between the owner and the Experimental Farm Service. The work of the Illustration Stations is the study of local agricultural problems and varies somewhat from place to place. For instance, the Terrace Station is interested

mainly in horticultural problems, while the Houston Station is set up to assist farmers in a mixed farming district.

THE FUTURE

As a further aid to farmers in this area, a District Agriculturist is stationed at Smithers and his district in this case comprises the Bulkley and Skeena Valleys. A District Agriculturist is an Extension worker and as such he is interested in promoting or assisting with any project designed to be of help to farmers

or to improve rural living conditions. Whenever possible he carries out his extension work by working with farm organizations such as Farmers' Institutes, Junior Farmer Clubs, etc. However, the value of farm calls is not overlooked and during the year hundreds of calls are made to discuss with the farmer his individual problems.

The future of agriculture in Central B.C. look promising. The area is not without its disadvantages such as the long winter

feeding period for livestock, the short growing season with occasional summer frosts, when balanced with the advantages and taking into consideration that the area is one of the few remaining where a young man with limited capital may become successfully established on the land, it is reasonable to look forward to an increase in agricultural production throughout the whole Central British Columbia.

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**JUNE
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**JULY
7TH**

EXHIBITION

INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITS

(Open to all local and regional business and industry)

- ★ Auto Show
- ★ Furniture, Electrical Appliance Display
- ★ Fisheries and Boat Production
- ★ PHOTO EXHIBITS
- ★ SPRING FLOWER SHOW
- ★ Fur Show

STAGE SHOWS

- MIDWAY
- DANCING
- RIDES
- CONTESTS
- NIGHTLY PRIZES

NATURAL RESOURCES EXHIBITS

- ★ FORESTRY
- ★ CELANESE
- ★ FISHERIES
- ★ ALUMINUM
- ★ NATIVE ARTS and CRAFTS

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