

Horticultural and Agricultural Conditions Reviewed

EXCEPT in Sevier county and a few other isolated sections of the state, the 1908 fruit crop in Utah was above the normal, and in the oldest fruit centers was phenomenally large and unsurpassed in quality, while the returns from the crop aggregated the largest in the history of the industry.

Aside from local express shipments, which amounted to hundreds of carloads in the aggregate, there were shipped out of the state up to the close of the peach season about 1,000 cars of fruit, worth between \$500 and \$600 a car. In addition there will be some 200 or more cars of apples shipped this season. The commercial value of the Utah fruit crop for 1908, is conservatively estimated at \$1,000,000, including that supplied to the local markets and canneries.

The fruit industry this year shows a phenomenal growth over former records. Shipments from Salt Lake county will amount to 20 or 40 cars, the most ever sent out before were three cars for each of the two previous years. The increase in Utah, Davis, Boxelder, Weber and Cache counties was fully as marked. Sanpete shipped by the carload as well, also Grand county.

It is safe to estimate that the annual output of fruit will be more than doubled in the next three years, when the hundreds of young orchards will come into bearing. At the present rate of growth, the next decade will see the fruit industry become the leading one in the state, as it is already the leading one in Oregon and Washington, where the value of the present season's fruit crop is claimed to be \$10,000,000 in each state, overtopping all other agricultural interests. In those states bearing orchards are valued at \$1,000 to \$2,000 per acre, the net value of the returns from the fruit produced annually amply justifying these high valuations.

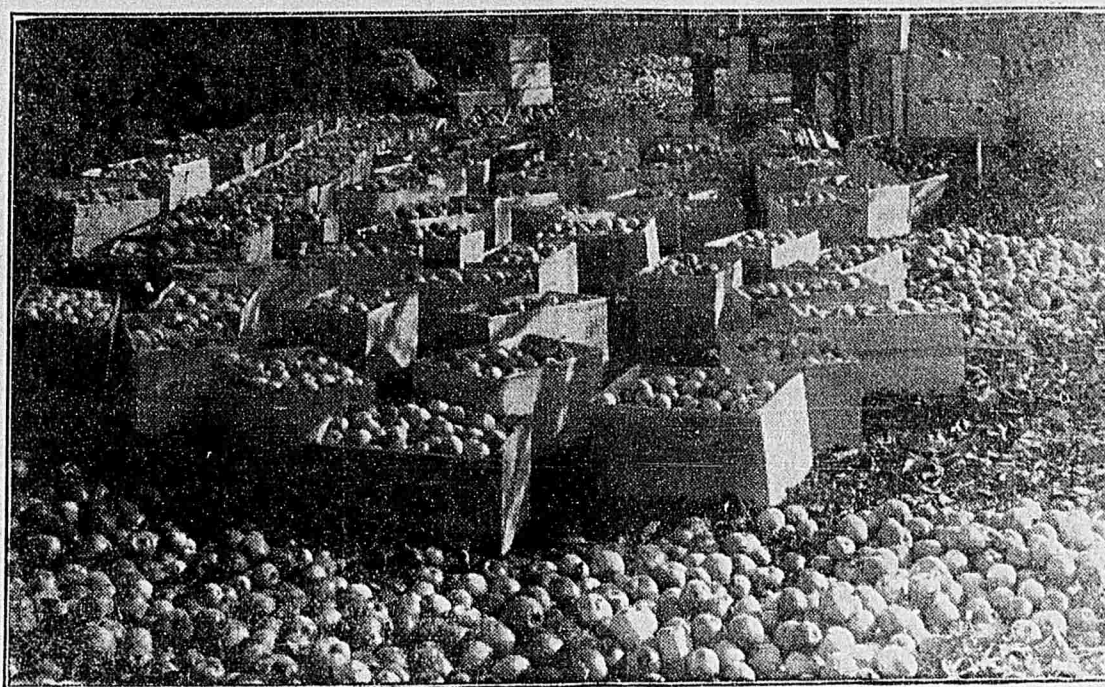
The commercial value of anything is

the amount it will bring in the open market. The value of bank, railroad, mining or other industrial stock is fixed by the interest or dividend it will bring the investor, aside from speculative considerations. The value of farms is based upon the same considerations. Bearing orchards in this state as well as in other states have their high valuations upon their ability to earn dividends for their owners. Upon this basis orchard land often attains phenomenal values. At a recent fruit growers' meeting in Connecticut a veteran apple grower said that he knew of no \$100 investment that would be as valuable as one bearing apple tree. An extensive apple grower in this county puts an equal valuation on apple trees in his orchard. This would place the value of an acre orchard pretty high. This same local grower figures that 500 bearing apple trees will return their owner an income of \$10 a day for every day in the year, Sundays and holidays. To justify his claims he has apple trees now growing that return him \$15 to \$20 each annually. A number of cherry growers in this county have single trees which have produced between \$50 and \$60 worth of fruit in one season. No \$200 investment could begin to make so good a showing as these trees.

In further illustration of the phenomenal value of fruit land in this state, other authentic instances are cited. A small fruit grower in Mount Pleasant, Sanpete county, made a record of an \$800 acre crop of raspberries. Several growers in Salt Lake, Utah, Boxelder and Weber counties can make nearly as good a showing for strawberries. Bountiful in Davis county has many cherry orchards of half acre to six acres in extent. Not all can show an \$800 annual crop, but some of them can; \$200 to \$500 per acre is the more common figure. Sweet cherries thrive practically as well in most sections of this state as in California, and are fully as profitable.

NUT GROWING POSSIBILITIES.

Nut growing, which is being boomed in California as well as throughout the southern states, is destined to cut a big figure in this state, the English walnut as well as the almond thrives in many



JUST A FEW APPLES FOR THE MARKET.

sections of the state, particularly in the Dixie country. Unless soil conditions are too adverse, it is most probable the pecan nut can be grown with profit in the mild climate of Washington county. In Santa Clara a walnut tree planted some 20 years ago has the record of \$24 for an annual crop yield. This is a better net return than the average dairy cow of the state. It would be hard to find a whole orchard doing as well as this. Two-fifths of this yield would be considered a handsome profit in other lines of business. The figure is given merely to show the possibilities of nut growing in Utah.

Had a miner the choice of his mining activities, whether to delve for lead, copper, silver or gold, he would certainly choose the last named because of its greater returns over other mine products. Though it required much greater skill and ingenuity to accomplish results, his choice would still be the same. Inspired with the same discretion the shrewd owner of an irrigated farm in Utah will plan to grow such crops only as will yield the highest returns that the land, water and labor are capable of producing.

The owner of a small irrigated farm—nearly all Utah farms are small

in comparison with other states—who insists on growing cheap crops is certainly slighting his opportunities, to say the least. His position is on a parallel with the miner who would prefer to take out lead ore from his mine when by a little extra skill and industry he could get gold ore of immensely greater value.

Near the large cities garden truck will yield \$1,000 to \$2,000 per acre according to the skill and intelligence of the grower. With the limited market largely supplied by Chinese and other cheap labor the openings in the direction of truck growing are limited. The

best opening therefore for the greatest returns from the Utah irrigated farm is in fruit growing.

Utah is conceded to be one of the best fruit growing states in the Union. Its climate and soil conditions with its abundant sunshine and dry, pure air, peculiarly adapt it for the production of the most colored and flavorful fruits grown in America. With a sufficiency of irrigating water to apply to the tree, vine or bush, as it is needed and in the quantity required by each particular kind of fruit, conditions here are not surpassed anywhere for the production of the best fruits of the earth in unlimited quantity. To paraphrase an old familiar song it may be said that for fruit growing in Utah every prospect pleases and only man is lacking in his qualifications. As set forth in a recent Idaho bulletin on apple growing, though the soil and the climate and every thing else be just right, the first requisite to the successful growing of fruit is the right man. The man is first, all other conditions are secondary.

He must have intelligence, energy, self-reliance, and above all a genuine love for his calling. Given these, fruit growing can be made to pay in this state better than any other branch of agriculture. For this reason and for the further reason that only high-priced products should be grown where land and irrigating water are so valuable as in Utah, fruit growing should become the leading agricultural industry of the state.

Landholdings in Utah will probably average smaller than in any other state, while the family supported by the farm is much larger than anywhere else, hence the need of more intensive farming than obtains elsewhere.

As a life competency, as a provision against the vicissitudes of old age, or as provision for the needs of one's family in the event of the breadwinner being called away by death, there is nothing that will fill the bill for all these so well as a growing, well cared for orchard or vineyard. People will tax their incomes and deprive themselves of hard earned money to keep up a life insurance policy to prevent their dependent ones from becoming

a public charge at their death and to keep them from want, a most commendable foresight. But for a young man of energy and industry, the most practical and available life insurance policy is a thrifty orchard. Every dollar put into it will yield a hundred fold and the insured will not have to die to get the benefit of his money and thrift. As long as the owner lives the orchard or vineyard will provide him with the most pleasant and fascinating employment known, and supply every need for himself and family. And if he does not live to enjoy the fruits of his labors, his family is well provided for.

The members of the family will also be provided with a most alluring and profitable employment, while the orchard will increase in value and yield greater returns as it matures and grows older.

Long before a life insurance policy can be matured, an orchard well managed, can be made to pay for itself and will be paying handsome dividends. Direct returns will commence from it in five years, from the larger fruit, and in two years from the smaller fruits.

Many are deterred from starting an orchard because of the first outlay. But this is a mistake. Five acres in apples and small fruits will yield a handsome competence for life, and as before stated will yield early returns. Except in the immediate vicinity of the larger cities, good orchard land can be got for \$100 or less per acre. Twenty dollars per acre will supply and plant the trees. A living can be made in growing vegetables and small fruits on the same land, and the trees can be grown and they will be no detriment to the orchard as fertility is restored. His orchard in this management is not all outlay as in an insurance policy, but it is a saving. Thus looked at from every point of view, orcharding offers many inducements as a simple life insurance policy, and many advantages over the methods offered by the companies which have grown rich upon the savings and earnings of the thrifty and prudent.

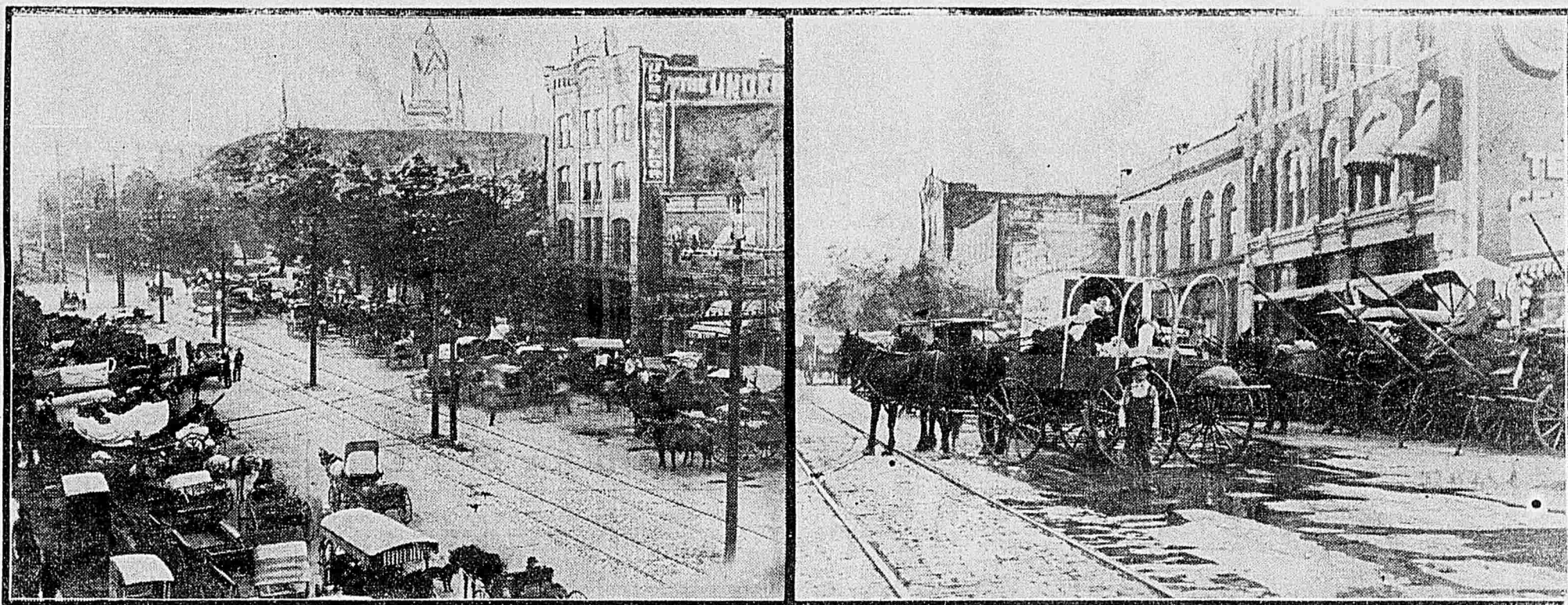
JOS. H. PARRY.
Sec. State Horticultural Society.

Utah's Canning Industry Forging to the Front.

THE canning industry of Utah is one of those that is enjoying a steady, healthy growth. Each year sees added improvements, a greater capacity, more expert workmanship, increased and superior products and better facilities for handling and shipping the same. Greater interest is taken in the business than ever before and the wise ones confidently predict that it will soon be among the chief and profitable activities of the state.

It is within the memory of those now in the canning business that Utah products, fruits and vegetables, apples, pears, peaches, plums, tomatoes, corn, peas, beans, etc., had only a small market in this state because it took too long to get the produce to local markets, there were no canning factories and consequently there was a loss of that which could not be gathered, boxed and shipped out of the state to other markets, and it amounted to thousands of dollars during the shipping season.

Products of the class mentioned were shipped out of the state to canning factories and then shipped back for sale here, so that when they reached the consumer the latter paid about double the price that should have been paid. This condition of affairs was changed when plants were established in this state and when better facilities for transportation were brought about.



WAGON LOADS OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES ON WEST TEMPLE STREET, SALT LAKE CITY.

It was about 18 years ago that the idea which had been conceived many years previous was realized and the canning industry started in Utah. Ogden and Wood's Cross were the scenes of new activity and factories were built in those two places. Their success encouraged promoters and today the result is apparent to all interested in the projects. From the two the enterprise grew until today there are 21 in the state and the prospects for more are exceedingly bright.

It is stated upon excellent authority that several new factories were in contemplation during the early part of this year and toward the close of the last, and they would have materialized but for the panic which tightened the money market and scared investors.

But even under conditions which have been somewhat adverse, the results have been profitable and encouraging to a high degree.

Of course the factories are not in operation throughout the year. They are busy only during the season when products can be put up and shipped and while some handle only tomatoes, others put up all sorts of produce.

FARMERS WIDE AWAKE.

Farmers have taken advantage of golden opportunities and facilities have not suffered in the least for want of material to can and ship, and there has been a ready market for all that has gone out of the state. The business improves each year as more stuff is raised, handled with greater dispatch, quickly canned and shipped.

The year 1908 has been a successful one as pertains to all the products with one exception. That is tomatoes. They were out short because of early and heavy frost which came during the beginning of the canning season. On this account there were probably not more than 300,000 cases of tomatoes packed in this state and as a result the price advanced because of curtailed supply.

As to fruit there was an extra large supply and the product was of general superior quality. It is conservatively estimated that 150,000 cases of fruit of all varieties were handled during the present year.

THIS YEAR'S OUTPUT.
The following table will give a fair and conservative estimate of the other products canned and shipped:

Peas	75,000 Cases
Beans	25,000 Cases
Asparagus	5,000 Cases
Tomatoes	30,000 Cases
Assorted Fruits	30,000 Cases

It is estimated that about 100,000 cases of the latter are consumed in the state, the balance being shipped to Idaho, Wyoming, Montana and Colorado, while some find market in eastern states, or as far east as the Missouri river.

As to fruits, Utah brands are generally encountered in Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri and other states. Aside from the money kept in the state by reason of the canning factories, some idea can be gleaned as to the ready cash that comes into the state by citing one feature: The Woods Cross factory alone has shipped into Montana 65 car loads of its products in a single year, realizing about \$1,000 per car and during the busy season the factory employs from 100 to 125 persons. The payroll of the factories is upward of \$150,000 per year, but it must be remembered that they do not operate all the year round. For the products during the present year the factories paid out upwards of \$250,000. For tomatoes the farmers received from \$19 to \$12 per ton and the yield will approximate ten tons to the acre.

LIST OF FACTORIES.

Following is a list of the factories now operating in the state: Woods Cross, Kaysville, Layton Co., Clearfield, Syracuse, Star, Garden City Co., (two factories), Springville, Utah, Wasatch, Banner, Morgan, Hooper, Roy, Salt Lake Valley, Riverdale, Uintah, Plain City, North Ogden.

The business this year would have been greatly increased over that of last year but for the great falling off in tomatoes, owing to early frosts.

Wheat and Grain Crops Raised in Utah.

THIS has certainly been "the farmers' year" for grain, as not only have the crops been bounteous, but prices have been remarkably satisfactory to the producer.

Oats: The largest crop that has ever been raised in Utah and adjacent territory has been reaped. At the beginning of the season it looked as if the large yield would necessitate low prices, but a demand spring up from Colorado, Chicago, St. Louis and Kansas City, as well as the usual inquiry from Nevada and California, which not only maintained prices but established an advance. Oats at the beginning of the season brought about the equivalent of \$1.35 per cwt, sacked f. o. b. Salt Lake City, and since that time gradually advanced until they are now worth about \$1.45 to \$1.45 per cwt, sacked f. o. b. Salt Lake City, and equivalent prices in other directions. The quality of the oats this season has not been quite so satisfactory as in former years, being fully one to two pounds per bushel lighter, caused principally by the sudden advent of hot weather in July during the ripening period.

Barley: The acreage devoted to barley in 1908 was at least 25 to 35 per cent greater than ever before, and the yield per acre also was the highest on record. The demand, however, has been urgent from the very first day that threshing commenced until the present time. Prices of sacked feed barley started at the equivalent of

about \$1.10 to \$1.25 per cwt, sacked f. o. b. Salt Lake City, and it is now worth about \$1.25 per cwt, sacked f. o. b. Salt Lake City.

Wheat: The yield of this article has not been quite so satisfactory as in the case of oats and barley. The prospect during the flowering season looked bright, but the extremely hot weather during the period of ripening cut off the yield materially and threshing revealed a shortage of at least 25 to 30 per cent below the early estimates. I would also state that owing to the high prices obtainable in 1907 for both oats and barley, a considerable acreage was taken from the wheat column and devoted to oats and barley. Prices of wheat began at about 80 cents per 60 pounds sacked and good milling wheat is now worth about 90 cents per 60 pounds sacked f. o. b. Salt Lake City.

The outstanding feature of the grain trade in Utah and adjacent territory for the last three years has been an extremely urgent demand for all our cereals to go out of our state, as the quality commends itself to purchasers more and more every year. Our own home millers and dealers will have to revise their methods of purchasing grain, otherwise they are likely to be left without sufficient supplies toward the end of each season for lack of proper elevator facilities and financial arrangements to take care of the grain here for their home wants, as the farmers naturally sell to the outside markets when prices are satisfactory. Unless our own millers can give equally good prices and arrange to take care of the grain.

Before the advent of the new wheat in 1908, the market here was so demoralized that wheat had to be imported from Washington and Oregon costing as high as \$1.05 to \$1.07 per bushel of 60 pounds delivered in order to bridge over the scarcity between the two seasons.

SAM WILLIAMS.

MILLION AND HALF POUNDS OF HONEY IS UTAH'S RECORD

BEESKEEPERS of the state are lamenting the fact that conditions this year have been about as unfavorable as they were in 1907, which means that the output has been in the neighborhood of 25 per cent less than what it was in 1906. The cause is practically the same—a cold, dry and prolonged spell during a period of the year when spring should have been here in all its glory and warmth, with budding flowers for the busy bees to feed upon. There is one condition, however, that has been favorable to beeskeepers in Salt Lake county, and that is the absence of smelter smoke which heretofore destroyed hundreds of colonies.

This year the output of honey has been good. In Salt Lake county the colonies have averaged from 150 to 200 pounds. The output for the entire state is estimated at 1,500,000 pounds of extra and 400,000 pounds of 60,000 pounds of wax. That there has not been more is due to some of the beeskeepers in their carelessness in handling their bees. One man in the southern part of the state owing 300 colonies got practically nothing from them because the bees were too closely confined in the hives, were too closely robbed and, in consequence, ate the honey and brood.

The demand this year has far exceeded the supply and every pound of honey produced has found a ready market. The prices have been good too, as Utah honey is in great demand everywhere because of its general superiority. It has sold for eight cents wholesale, 10 cents retail and 12 1/2 cents for comb.

E. S. Lovess, president of the Beeskeepers' association, who has been in the business for 24 years, says that he produced 300 pounds this spring and has never done better than this year. He says that the two best years he has known of were 1904 and 1905, when conditions necessary to success, "namely, strong swarms and good management. Where these conditions exist the reports from our beeskeepers are most gratifying. From many of the reports I find from 150 to 200 pounds to the colony, and an average of 90 pounds to the hive. These reports come from the north, central and southern Utah.

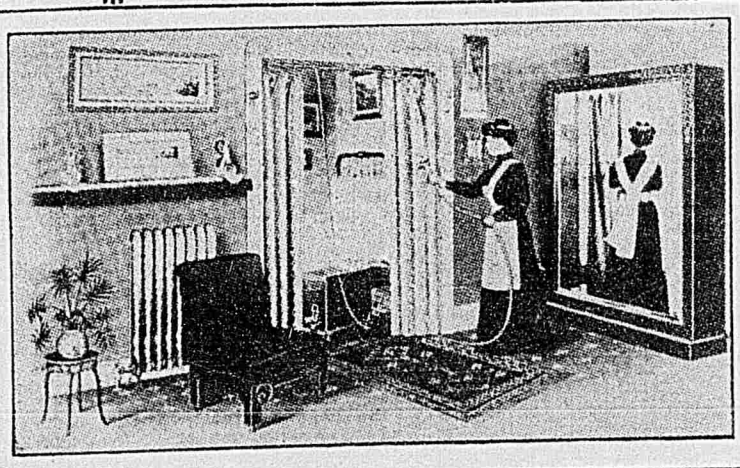
"One thing that the beeskeepers of the state are sorely in need of is a state inspector and we hope that the next legislature will take up the matter and pass a law so that the governor may appoint such an official in addition to the county inspectors. Another thing I wish to call attention to and that is the carelessness of some of our beeskeepers in failing to properly handle the colonies. In some instances I know of the keepers have practically suffocated the bees by sealing them up too tight during cold weather. This should not be. They should have proper ventilation and have a chance to get out."

Now that smelter smoke is a thing of the past and no longer a menace to bees, there is greater confidence among keepers of apiaries and they have abiding faith in the success of the industry. Conditions generally are reported to be excellent and what losses have been suffered this year have been from the damage done by unfavorable weather conditions, have been caused, Mr. Lovess says, by the indifference of the beeskeepers and their neglect to properly care for their colonies. He says there is hardly any limit to the benefits and profits to be derived from the industry if the raisers will but pay proper attention to the business.

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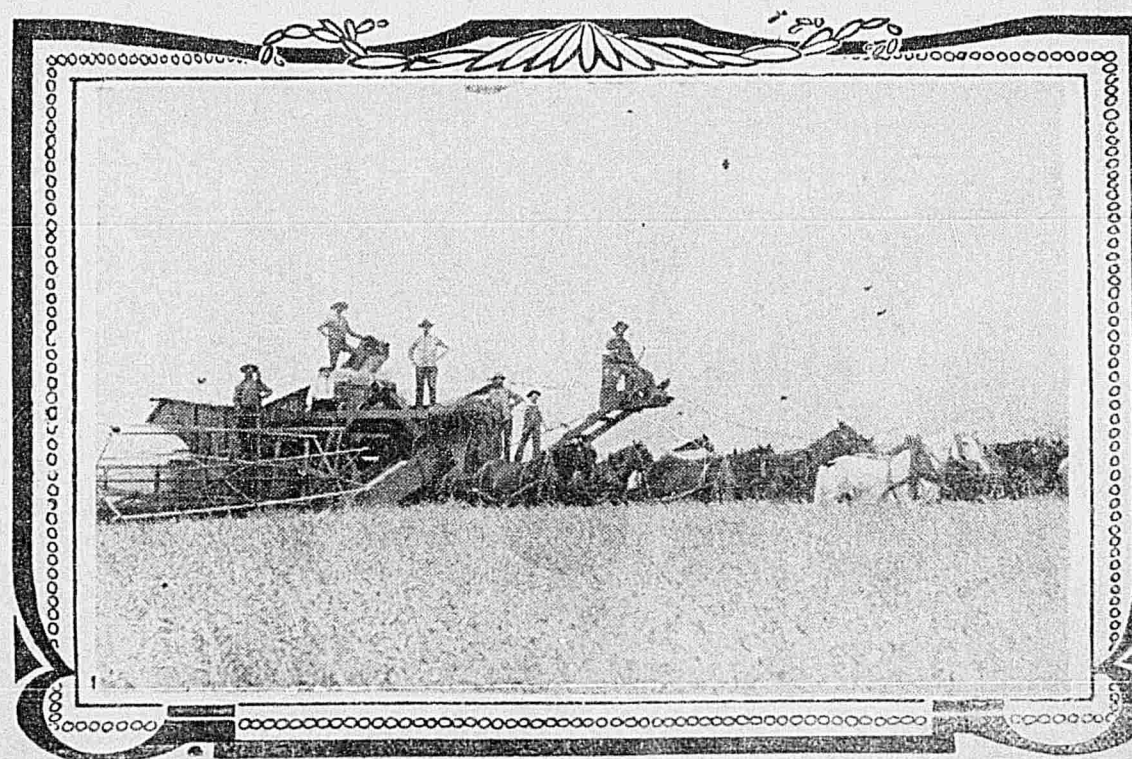
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