

## Sacramento County—California

Sacramento County, located at the southern entrance to the great Sacramento Valley, has an area of 963 square miles, approximately that of the State of Rhode Island.

Two of California's greatest rivers, the Sacramento and American, form their junction within the county. A third, the San Joaquin, marks its southern boundary. Of its land area of approximately 629,120 acres, largely the rich, silt, delta land of these three great rivers, there is scarcely a waste acre.

The county's assessed valuation, 1928, was \$139,455,756 (about 60 per cent of real value); its population, 143,219.

### The Capital City

Sacramento, the county seat, has been the Capital City of California since 1854. It is a beautiful, modern and rapidly growing metropolis of 110,000, fifth largest city in the State, largest in the interior.

Its location at the heart of one of the world's largest and most highly productive agricultural areas, with exceptional transportation facilities by rail, by highway, and by steamer shipment over the great Sacramento River to tidewater at San Francisco, is making it one of the wonder cities of the West in rapid growth of population and development as an industrial center.

The last farm survey, made in 1925 by the United States Government, disclosed the following facts about Sacramento County farms:

### Farm Facts

Approximate land area—629,120 acres.

In farms—71 per cent.

Number of farms—1925, 3921; 1920, 2975; 1910, 1601.

Average size—114 acres.

Operated by owners, 3130; by managers, 87; by part owners, 149; by tenants, 555.

Total value of farms lands and buildings—\$49,891,408.

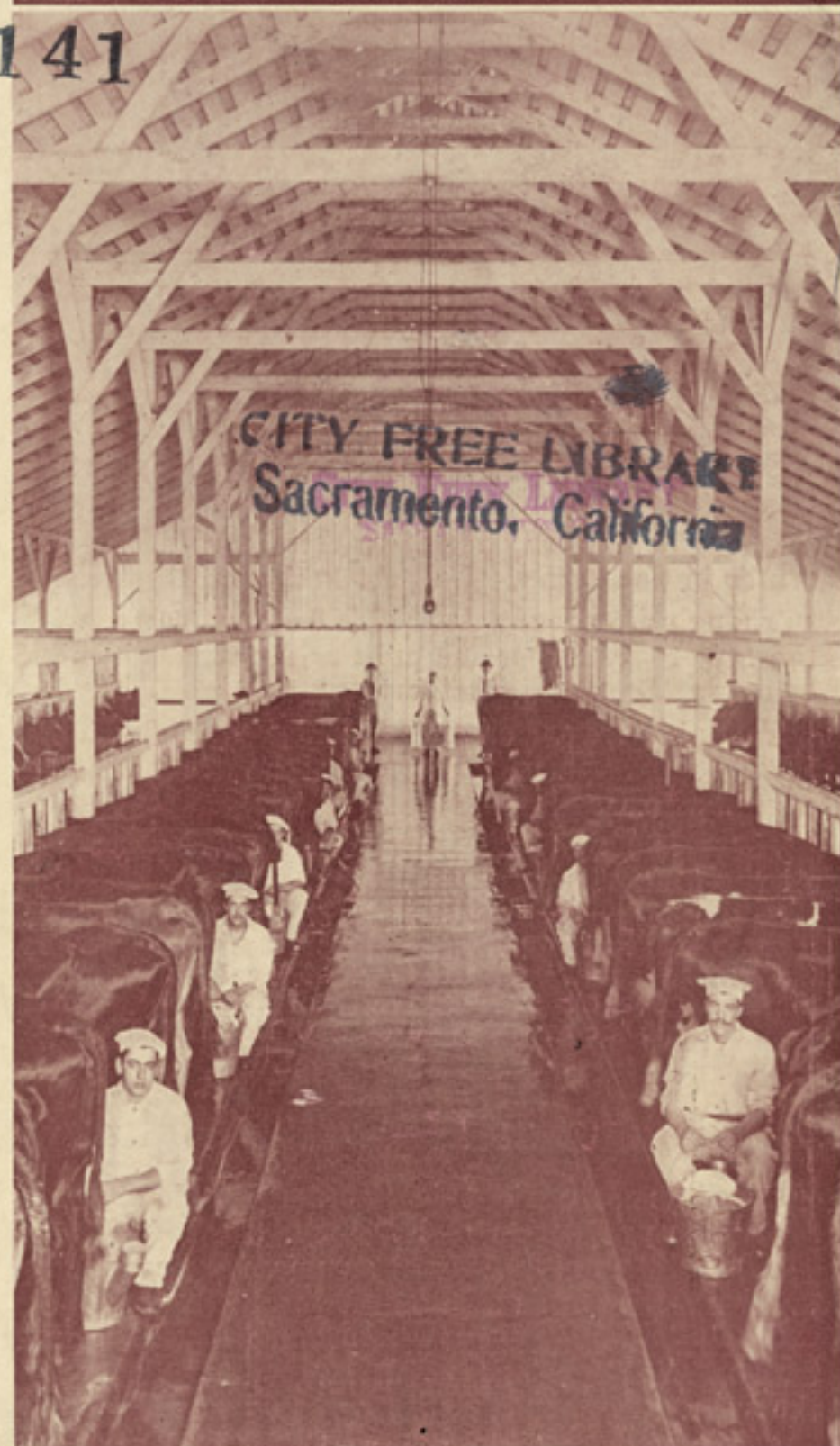
Average farm value—\$29,250.

### At Your Service

The newcomer to Sacramento County, whether he wishes to buy an improved farm or to develop a new one, will find always at his command the advice of the Agricultural Department of the Sacramento Chamber of Commerce, and of county, State and national agricultural officials. Their only desire is to see farmers succeed.

# Livestock and Poultry

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## Sacramento County California

Issued by Sacramento Chamber of Commerce



**Holsteins Make the Ideal Dairy Herd.**

## A Livestock Opportunity

Sacramento County offers exceptional opportunities to the man who is interested in livestock.

Though it already ranks as third largest poultry center in California, with over half a million hens—

Though it already has 10,500 dairy cows, with the major portion of the milk sold as market milk, bringing highest market prices—

Though there are already 56,000 sheep, 7,500 hogs, 17,500 beef animals, 741 goats and 7,600 horses in Sacramento County—

There is opportunity for sound development in all these lines.

California produces only 60 % of the dairy products it consumes; and only 10 % of the pork products. While the production of eggs is ahead of local consumption, the most advanced marketing organization in the world sells an ever increasing yield on a world market.

## Conditions Here Are Right

Conditions are right in Sacramento County for profitable production of livestock.

Mild winters and pleasant summers are conducive to greatest health and highest productivity.

Costly buildings are not required for winter protection. Animals and fowls run out of doors all the year.

Abundant water is available at low cost. Stock feed is cheap. Alfalfa and other forage crops are grown economically and plentifully. Winter pasturage is available in green fields throughout the winter. Silos are largely used and the feeding of concentrates is practiced—available from nearby mills at reasonable prices.

Wheat and other grains for chickens are grown in the county—ample green feed can be produced on the poultry ranch.

Growing conditions and markets are both favorable to success.



**Good Steers are in Demand.**

## Other Livestock

It is unusual to find in a highly intensified agricultural county such as Sacramento so great a variety and quantity of livestock.

Sheep and hogs have proven good income producers the last few years, and are considered side lines on most of the farms, making a profitable use of winter forage and dairy wastes.

Yet this is a business which can be largely and very profitably expanded.

With California producing only ten per cent of the pork products it consumes, and a premium paid for California pork, an especially favorable opportunity exists for the hog raiser.

## What A Stockman Says:

T. H. Ramsey, Red Bluff, Calif., banker, and one of the most widely known livestock experts in the United States, summarizes conditions in California for 1929 as follows:

"The Sacramento Region offers unusual opportunities to those who wish to engage in the livestock business in its various branches due to the fact that the climatic and grazing conditions are so diversified and generally favorable. This Region comprises valley, foothill and mountain areas providing a variety of forage most suited to livestock.

"Within the past few years the volume of the milk lamb industry has been tremendous and the profits resulting have been very satisfactory. The market appears to be unlimited for this commodity. April and May lambs are selling at from 12½ to 14 cents per pound, f. o. b. cars. A four and a half to five months lamb will weigh from 80 to 85 pounds. Naturally, to obtain these results, one must have proper range and understand the business.

"The cattle business has come back and is enjoying a profitable period with every indication that it may look forward, with assurance, to good prices for several years in the future. The coast markets are now on a par with the Eastern markets and good steers are selling in April at 11¼c per pound and feeder steers at 10 to 10½c per pound. These prices return to the grower very satisfactory profits.

"The dairy branch of the industry is growing by leaps and bounds. Many of the mountain counties in the Region are turning to the dairy cow for the utilization of their wonderful meadow pastures. This is also true of the irrigated valley areas.

"It may be truthfully said that the Sacramento Region embraces all that can be desired, both as to soil and climate, with an abundance of water and to those who are willing to work, and with a proper understanding, offers a golden opportunity in the livestock business."



A Premium is Paid for California Pork.



56,000 Sheep in Sacramento County.

## Consider These Facts About Sacramento County

Sacramento has shown the greatest growth in the poultry industry in the last five years of any section in the state of California. Egg shipments in 1924 totalled 12 carloads—in 1928, 106 carloads.

Sacramento is now third city in the state in point of egg shipments. Poultry products are valued at more than \$2,500,000.

Dairy products in Sacramento County brought \$2,407,240 in 1927—in market milk, ice cream and butter.

The greatest portion of the milk produced in the Sacramento district is sold as market milk—which insures the producer the best prices possible.

Feed costs for dairy cows in this county are second lowest of any county in California.

Herd costs for dairy cows are fourth lowest of any county in the state.

The rural school system is excellent. Many districts are served by school busses which carry children from the ranches to large central schools of the most modern type.

## More Dairies Wanted

The California State Agricultural Department urges more dairies and more cows on California farms.

Creameries and condensaries are asking for more production.

The need is as keen in Sacramento County as in any other section of the state, and conditions here are as favorable—in land values, production costs and marketing facilities.

A 40 acre farm and 30 cows makes the ideal lay-out for one family. Suitable land will cost \$125 and up per acre, depending upon location, state of improvement and other conditions.

## Advantages Recognized

Ex-Governor Frank O. Lowden of Illinois, president of the National Holstein-Friesian Association, said on a recent visit to California:

"California charms me, and the possibility of development interests me, in dairy farming especially. Eastern cattle breeders are looking to the West to be the greatest American dairy country of the future.

## Sacramento Dairy Production 1927

Market milk distributed.....	3,410,147 gallons
Milk fat produced.....	2,249,757 pounds
Butter manufactured .....	2,660,020 pounds
Ice cream manufactured.....	503,923 gallons

There are four creameries, one cheese factory, eleven ice cream plants, nine market milk distributors and one condensary in Sacramento County.

## The Human Element

The best soil in the world, adequate water and most favorable climate cannot compensate for poor farming methods or a man unfitted for the job. Farm economists have come to reckon in their findings the human element as most important of all. The prospective farmer must judge his own capabilities as well as the soil and other conditions and if he is properly qualified should succeed in Sacramento County.

## Sacramento--Poultry Center

Rapid strides made by Sacramento County the last five years in developing into one of the leading poultry centers in California are causing older sections some wonder.

Besides supplying the ever-increasing demands of the city of Sacramento and surrounding communities, shipments made by Sacramento poultrymen to points outside have grown with truly remarkable rapidity, as is shown by the following table:

1924, carload shipments —	12
1925, " "	35
1926, " "	72
1927, " "	95
1928, " "	106

Sacramento passed Los Angeles and Santa Cruz in 1926, and now ranks third among the poultry centers of California in egg shipments.

One of the largest poultry colonies in the state is located at Rio Linda, eight miles north of Sacramento, where 450 families are established on poultry farms.

Poultry is proving a profitable side line with farmers all over the county, and poultry ranches are to be found in almost every district.

Undeveloped land suitable for poultry can be purchased in the Sacramento district at \$100 per acre and up, depending on the size of the tract, distance from the city and boulevards, and other material factors entering into success in the poultry business.



A Model Poultry Farm in Sacramento.

## Getting Started In Poultry

Poultry is a business, and like any other business, requires capital to start, although the amount needed is much smaller than in most independent enterprises.

Because of this fact, and because the work is healthful and pleasant, a great many families are going in for poultry production.

A minimum of at least \$2000 is needed for a start in the poultry business. This will make the down payment on three to five acres of land, build a small cottage, build and equip the necessary poultry yards and houses, put down a pump and buy the first baby chicks. With this small capital, the owner must plan on other employment until his obligations are met and his flock becomes self-sustaining.

With a minimum cash capital of \$5,000, the poultryman can make an independent start in the poultry business which will enable him to put in full time on his own ranch in the development of a fully equipped plant and a profitable flock of laying hens.

## And Turkeys

Turkeys are raised wholesale in Sacramento County and fattened on the stubble fields, orchards and vineyard wastes. They are ready for

the market early and bring a good price on local markets.

## What a Poultryman Thinks of Sacramento County

Sacramento Chamber of Commerce,  
Sacramento, California.  
Gentlemen:

We are glad to comply with your request for data regarding the poultry business in this county just as we have experienced it ourselves.

We came from North Dakota in 1923 and are well satisfied to be here in Sacramento County. We have no desire to go back to the cold and snow.

We began our operations by brooding 2400 baby chicks in February of 1924. Our first pullet flock began producing in the middle of the Summer when about six months old. During their first laying year, that is, from the time they were six months to eighteen months old, we had an average of 837 pullets. Our egg checks for that period totaled \$4,345.26 and feed and supplies amounted to \$2,353.37. The new stock brooded the following year is not covered in the above expense. This made us an average of \$2.38 flock profit per bird for the first twelve months of laying. As you know, the subsequent years, when you have a mixed flock of pullets, yearlings, two and three year old hens, does not bring in so much per hen as in the pullet year, because the pullets lay heavily in the Fall and Winter

while in the mixed flock some are moulting at that period. However, since our first pullet year we have completed two more years of laying and figuring as above, we have cleared per hen per year all the way from \$1.33, when the egg market was the lowest in many years, to \$1.74. I would say that the generally accepted average is about \$1.50 per bird per year, providing, of course, that the poultryman is attending to his business as he should.

Sacramento County is a fine district for poultry raising because we have fresh greens all the year 'round and marketing facilities, through the most efficient co-operative associations in the country, are available.

A man must have a reasonable capital, of course, and he must be a worker. Then his success should be commensurate with the intelligent effort he puts into his undertaking. We are always glad to see new people come to Sacramento County, where living conditions are better and where a man who will apply himself, and has the necessary capital, can succeed.

Yours truly,

DEDRICK & EVANS.

Rio Linda, California, December 1, 1927.