climate, free from sudden and extreme changes. This fact regarding the climate is of greatest importance. The temperature in the winter is somewhat low but with the dryness of the atmosphere, this is not a serious matter with beef cattle, and especially those that are being fattened. Sufficient shelter can be provided at a very small cost, as, for example, simply a straw shed with openings at the south side. Beef cattle are different from dairy cattle in this respect, because they retain all the body heat, a large proportion of which, in the dairy cow, is withdrawn when the milk is removed twice each day.

Live stock raising with beef cattle production as the main object can be operated with probably the smallest amount of labor of all the different classes of farming. Polk County has the farms and the labor can be secured. The general conditions applying to beef cattle also apply to sheep and swine. Great success has followed in this work. In raising beef, mutton, and pork, the good water, the dry climate, and the easily grown feeds present unusually favorable conditions for the man of even moderate means. Many splendid herds are here now, with increasing numbers each year.

DAIRYING.

It has been demonstrated year after year, that corn, clover, and alfalfa can be depended upon for a good crop in Polk County. With these crops, dairying is assured of its proper place in the front rank. Dairying means a constant monthly income from the sale of the products, the utilization of the farm help during the winter months, when labor is comparatively cheap, and above all, the use of the home grown feeds upon the farm and the return of the fertility to the soil.

Polk County has all the elements of a dairying section. Dairy herds are springing up around every town. A co-operative creamery is the proud boast of nearly every community in the county. There are 21 creameries in the county, 19 of which are co-operative. This can be said of only four other counties of the state. These 20 creameries paid to the farmers of this county, $492,346.12, in 1912, for butterfat alone. There is room for many times as many dairy cows as there are at present. The earning capacity of Minnesota cows has grown from $15.40 each in 1890 to $53.10 each in 1912. With such a showing the prospects are favorable.

POULTRY RAISING.

There is no section of the country that presents greater opportunities in poultry raising than Polk County. The markets are at its door, the Twin Cities to the south, Duluth and the Iron Range cities to the east; and numerous summer resorts, scattered over a wide area, give access to the greatest markets in the Northwest.

The climate of this part of the State is extremely favorable to poultry raising. The steady, unvariable winter weather insures the best of health and vigor in the flocks, while the long cool summer days are conducive to the most rapid and steady growth of its young stock. Indeed, it is freely admitted by buyers of national reputation, that nowhere in the United States can be found young stock of chickens, ducks, and turkeys, that exhibit such marked indications of rapid growth and freedom from disease as are produced in this part of the state.

LIVE STOCK FARMING.

The greatest asset of any county is the number of farmers that are using the natural advantages surrounding them to the best advantage. Live stock farming, be it with beef cattle, sheep, dairy cows, brood mares, or poultry, is profitable every year, and annually leaves the farm in better shape. This is what the Red River Valley counties are going into, and Polk County is going with the rest. The movement is strongly in evidence in every community.

The following table shows the total number of cattle and per cent of dairy cows in Polk County for 1860 to 1910, with the exception of 1870. The table following shows the dairy production of Polk County for the same period: