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THE FALL FAIR.

Fairs are probably like newspapers and many other business institutions in this world. The chap on the outside knows more about their management and how to make them successful than the fellow on the inside. Most of us are liable to err, as the exhibition balloon often refuses to fly upward. We have as yet had no official information on the subject; but there is little doubt that the Victoria exhibition was not as successful this year as it has been in recent years. The exhibits were not as satisfactory nor was the attendance as large as it was last year. Various reasons have been assigned for the declension. One reason, given by a practical authority, for the comparative indifference of exhibitors is the fact that on the whole the year was an indifferent one for fruit-growers and others engaged in kindred industries upon the southern portion of the Island, and indeed over the major portion of British Columbia. This is a factor, certainly, for which the management cannot be held responsible. When growers feel that they cannot gain credit, and results more substantial than credit, by making a display at a show, they are perfectly justified in declining to participate in the friendly competition for honors with their neighbors. That is a situation which is not likely to occur again in a generation. It is a difficulty which will not have to be contended with next year. As far as it is concerned, the subject may therefore be dismissed and the management may look forward hopefully to what another year may bring forth.

Other critics say the fact of the association being mixed up with the sixty-day race meeting had a prejudicial effect—that many exhibitors and many more who were not exhibitors refused to patronize the fair in the belief that by doing so they would be giving encouragement to the gambling which was the most prominent characteristic of that meeting. Whether that assumption be true or false, the conditions objected to are not likely to occur again. The agricultural association has taken strong ground against book-making, and whether the position of the Country Club that its lease of the ground empowers it to hold another meeting next year be a correct position or not, there is a strong probability that at the coming session of the Dominion Parliament a law will be enacted that will effectually carry out the manifest original intention of that body to absolutely prohibit gambling upon race courses in Canada. So that feature, unquestionably objectionable to a very large element whose patronage is necessary to the success of the fair, will be completely eliminated in the future.

Another thing to which the apparent lack of enthusiasm for the success of the fair this year has been attributed is the superior attraction of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exhibition which has been in progress during the entire summer in Seattle. The Provincial Fair of Victoria, excellent though it has been in many respects during recent years, and steadily though it has grown in strength and in favor, cannot be said to approach within even measurable distance of the quality of a world's fair. The large attendance of Victorians at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exhibition unquestionably affected the gate of the Provincial Fair. Comparisons were inevitable though unreasonable, and the inevitable result followed—a falling off in receipts from a source upon which our institution principally depended for success.

However, conditions will be normal again next year, and the experience, including any mistakes that may have been made, will be beneficial. The management has but one course to pursue: forget the things that are past and prepare to command unqualified success in the future. Our exhibition is an established institution. There is no reason why the untoward circumstances of the present year should prove in the slightest degree discouraging to the management.

A TARIFF WAR.

Some of the newspapers of the United States have precipitated an imaginary tariff war between their country and Canada. There is little likelihood of such a conflict. The trouble is all upon paper and it is all about paper. The American supply of pulp wood, from which paper is now chiefly manufactured, shows signs of exhaustion. The immediate source of supply outside of that country is to be found in Canada. American mills, foreseeing that which was about to come to pass, have secured large timber measures in Canada. Two of the leading provinces of the Dominion believe that if the pulp wood they possess were manufactured into paper at home instead of being taken to the United States and there converted into a finished product the result would be more beneficial to their people. In this respect they have taken a leaf out of the book of the protectionists of the United States, whose policy is to foster home manufactures and to export finished products in preference to exporting raw material. This policy is in conflict with the programme of the present government of the United States, which aims to get raw material from everywhere outside of the national boundaries, convert it into finished articles and sell it in that form not only at home but to the entire world. That is the way in which the wise men of the republic hope to make their country the "workshop of the world." But in framing this policy they have failed to take into consideration the fact that other nations may also have ambitions to turn their natural resources to the best possible account without permitting them to pass through the workshops of rival nations. The world is not yet prepared to submit to the industrial dictation of the United States of America. At least Canada is not, unless we greatly mistake the temper of her people.

The end to which the protectionist party of the United States has been working for a quarter of a century was made conspicuously manifest by the fiscal results of the last special session of Congress, ostensibly called to lower the tariff on the mandate of the people. The mandate was given a curious interpretation by the high tariff champions. All treaties of trade with foreign countries were declared abrogated in March, 1910. In future trade relations with the republic will be fixed not by friendly negotiation but by arbitrary dictation from Washington. The fact is asumed that in pursuance of powers acquired by legislation the United States can dictate the terms upon which their pulp wood shall be handled by the various provinces of Canada. If the raw material from which paper is made be not disposed of to American paper mills as the government of the United States shall decree, the duty on print paper seeking entrance to the markets of the republic shall not be admitted except at practically prohibitory rates of duty. That is the situation, and upon it based the idea of a tariff war between the United States and Canada. All we can say is that if war be declared the cost of it must be borne by the reading public of the United States. The newspapers must have the raw material from which their products are manufactured. Their output is increasing every day and the pulp wood from which that output is manufactured is daily decreasing correspondingly. There can be but one result, and Canada can afford to await the issue. Our government is under no necessity of declaring war. All it has to do, to use a phrase well understood in the United States, is to "stand pat." We have endured the fiscal hostility of the republic for a generation. We have watched our exports to the United States compared with our imports from that country fall in value until they are as one dollar to three, and yet we have continued to prosper amazingly. Unless we are greatly mistaken the government of Canada, disregarding the actions of the United States, will continue to act as it thinks best in the interests of this country.

THE COWICHAN LAKE RAILWAY.

A contemporary which prides itself upon the fact that it is optimistic to the point, almost, of effervescence in regard to the beneficial effects of railway construction upon Vancouver Island, takes a pessimistic view of the business prospects which would follow the extension of the E. & N. Railway to Cowichan Lake. A few days ago the Times announced that before Sir Thomas Shaughnessy turned his face eastward negotiations for the sale of fifty thousand acres of timber lands in the Cowichan Valley would probably be completed, and that as a result of that important transaction a decision would be reached respecting the establishment of saw mills and other works in the neighborhood of Cowichan Bay and the commencement of work upon the mooted railway line to Cowichan Lake. The sale has been consummated and the railway will be built. Our contemporary affects to believe that the effect will be beneficial principally to Vancouver, which will have direct connection with the mills and the railway. If the city on the inlet receives the larger share of the advantages of the development of the most valuable timber belt in the world and the opening up of thousands of acres of splendid agricultural land to settlers, it will not be because it has any advantage in connection over Victoria but because the business interests of the capital are not sufficiently enterprising to seize and make the most of their opportunities. We do not believe that our business men can fairly be charged with indifference to such openings for the expansion of trade upon even terms as come their way. Victoria will in this matter have the advantage of better and more direct rail connection and shorter water connection. We believe the construction of the railway to Cowichan Lake and the resultant development of the timber industry in that section of the island will be of immense value to the business interests of Victoria, that the business houses of Victoria will not fail to rise to their opportunities, and that they and all concerned are to be congratulated upon the action of the C.P.R. authorities in disposing of their timber lands and deciding to add a branch to Cowichan Lake to their E. & N. system.

INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS OF CANADA.

Canadians understand in a general way that the past year was not one of the best in the industrial history of their country. Not that the pinch of hard times was seriously felt by the public. It was not felt at all in the West; but in the East the conditions were not as buoyant as merchants and manufacturers have been accustomed to since the beginning of the great business revival in the year 1897—factories were not compelled to work night and day in the year 1908, and workmen did not get in as much overtime as they had in previous years. The partial failure of the harvest was the cause of this lull in trade. Yet the returns of the banks do not indicate that the depression was very seriously felt. Statistics prove that Canadians have continued to set aside very substantial sums against the possibility of an anticipated "rainy day." However, the earth has yielded abundantly during the present year, and there is no likelihood of the accumulation thus noted being drawn against. On the contrary, the business sky is now so clear that it will be considered once more quite safe to follow the memorable advice of a former Finance Minister, Sir Leonard Tilley, given under much less promising conditions, to "clap on all sail."

The Customs Department of the Dominion has reduced the business operations of the past year to figures in order that Canadians may thoroughly understand, as far as statistics can make them comprehensible, the situation as compared with the preceding year. A summary of these returns as published in the Ottawa Free Press makes very interesting and instructive reading to all who care to follow the industrial progress of Canada. The imports showed a decrease of $61,029,917, reaching only a total of $309,756,608, but the exports fell off by only $18,494,447, their aggregate being $261,512,159. This is a record which no other country equalled during the panicky conditions of 1907-8, and Canada can congratulate herself on coming through the ordeal so well as she did.

The blue book shows that the farmer remains the bulwark of our trade. The exports of domestic produce reached a total of $242,603,584. Of this the produce of the farm made up more than half, amounting to $123,346,853. The forest provided $39,667,387; the mine $37,257,699; the fisheries $13,319,664; while the factories only exported goods to a value of $28,957,050.

Great Britain continues to be our best customer, taking $133,745,375 worth of our goods. The United States was again second with a total of $92,604,357, a falling off of $21,000,000 in the year. France, Italy, Holland, Belgium, Newfoundland, and China and Japan bought more from us than in the previous twelve months, while there was a decided falling off in our exports to Germany, Spain, the West Indies, South America and Australia.

We continue to buy more from the United States than from Great Britain, but this is largely due to our geographical position and to the fact that our neighbors to the south produce many of the raw materials which are needed in our industries, such as cotton, tobacco, corn and coal. The trade with Great Britain is developing satisfactorily under the operation of the preference and owing to the determination, daily becoming more pronounced, of the British manufacturer to take advantage of the Canadian desire to purchase where possible from the Motherland. But there is much left to be done before the British trader will overcome the geographical advantage enjoyed by his competitor in the United States, even though he is aided by the tariff preference.

The duty collected upon the imports—the rate of taxation in fact—was 16.11 per cent. as compared with 16.27 in the previous year, which is not so great a burden as some theorists would have the people believe.

SAVED COMRADE'S LIFE.

Plunged Into Water and Carried Shipmate to Floating Logs.

Two apprentices were at work on the stage painting and chipping the side of the ship Celtic Monarch in Vancouver harbor, when one, by the name of Ross, fell overboard. Knowing that Ross was unable to swim, his comrade, Dodds, immediately plunged into the water after him and succeeded in getting Ross onto some logs floating by the wharf until ropes thrown over the ship's side by Mate Martin were secured and the men drawn up to the ship.

Ross is a native of Edinburgh and Dodds hails from Galloway.

—James Parfitt has just returned from a visit to England. While in the Old Country he paid special attention to the methods of municipalities in connection with street and sidewalk improvements, and it is his opinion that in some respects Victoria is ahead of the smaller cities in England in regard to this class of civic work.

CLOSE OF THE FALL FAIR

EXHIBITION ON WHOLE PROVED SATISFACTORY

Management Handicapped This Year for Variety of Reasons.

(From Monday's Daily.)

The annual fall fair of 1909, under the auspices of the British Columbia Agricultural Association, came to a close on Saturday evening. While the general feeling is that the exhibition this year was not so attractive as in former seasons, it is hard to particularize in respect to deficiencies. Numerically, at all events, the exhibits in all classes save live stock were in excess of last year, and the attendance, despite unfavorable weather conditions at the opening of the week, was on the whole good. There was, however, a decided lack of enthusiasm displayed by the crowds in attendance, and this is explained by many as being due to the fact that the whole of Western America has been fair-surfeited this season because of the great exposition at Seattle. This great event, which has been in progress since June 15th last, has attracted to Seattle nearly everybody who could afford to go, and as a consequence these thousands had very little desire to see the small fair by comparison which Victoria could offer. Then, again, those who had been to Seattle and also attended the local fair were naturally in a critical mood, and this accounted no doubt for the general attitude of those in attendance. It is true that the special attractions which had been engaged failed to come up to expectations in many respects. This was especially the case in regard to the airship. Weather conditions militated against successful flights by the machine, and the management seemed to be in difficulties of a private character, but on the several flights that were attempted the spectacle proved an exceptionally interesting one.

It is conceded on all hands that the work of the women who interested themselves in the fair was conspicuously successful, and the women's building admirably filled the niche in the general scheme of the exhibition which had been allotted to it. The energetic committee who had the management of its affairs in hand have every reason to congratulate themselves.

In a musical way there was no lack this year. In the main building Fletcher Bros. each day provided an excellent programme which was listened to with the greatest interest by all who attended.

The music provided by Messrs. M. W. Waitt & Co. in the women's building gave universal satisfaction. The programmes arranged by Herbert Kent, manager of the firm, afforded excellent entertainment to the throngs congregated in the spacious hall.

Prize Lists.

The following are the remaining prize lists of the fair:

HORSES.

Shires.

Brood mare, with foal by side—1, Alex. Davie.
Yearling—1, Alex. Davie.
Foal—1, Alex. Davie.
Champion stallion and mare—1, Alex. Davie.

Standard Bred.

Three animals, the get of one registered sire, all under seven years—1, Alderson & Walker; 2, J. T. and J. H. Wilkerson.
Champion stallion and mare—1, J. T. and J. H. Wilkerson; 2, Alderson & Walker.

HONEY AND APIARY.

Best 20 lbs. of comb honey in sections, in most marketable conditions for retailing and display—1, S. Morley.
Best 20 lbs. of liquid extracted honey in most attractive package for retailing—1, S. Morley; 2, A. H. Menzies & Son.
Best 12 lbs. of comb honey, in sections, cases and glazed for retailing and display—1, S. Marley.

POULTRY AND PET STOCK.

Dressed Fowl.

For the best dressed pair broilers, not to exceed 2 lbs., not to be drawn but plucked—1 and 2, P. L. A. Price.
For the best dressed pair fowl, other than broilers. Birds not to be drawn but plucked—1 and 2, P. L. A. Price.

Pens.

Black Langshans—1, Mrs. Bradley-Dyne.
White Leghorns—1, A. Stewart.
Orpingtons—1, Capt. VanArum.
Buff bantams—1, C. J. McDowell.
Crested helmet, cock—1, J. G. French.
Crested helmet, hen—1, J. G. French.
Magpies, cock—1 and 2, J. G. French.
Magpies, hen—1 and 2, J. G. French.
Brown Leghorns, S. C.—1, 2 and 3, J. D. West.
W. Leghorns, S. C.—1, Capt. Van Arum.
Black Minorcas, S. C.—1, Blackstock Bros.; 2, E. Greenwood.
Buff Orpingtons—1, J. Wood; 2, Wm. Baylis.
Black Sumatra games—1, Wm. Baylis.
Columbian Wyandotte—1. Wm. Baylis.
Black Orpington—1, Wm. Baylis.
Rhode Island Reds—1, Mrs. E. Beaven.
Buff Plymouth Rock—1, A. H. Menzies & Son.
White Wyandotes—1, T. H. Kingscote.

Pet Stock.

Starlings, cock—1, J. G. French.
Starlings, hen—1, J. G. French.
Swallows, cock—1, J. G. French.
Swallows, hen—1, J. G. French.
Satinetts, cock—1, J. G. French.
Satinetts, hen—1, J. G. French.
Frill Back, cock—1, J. G. French.

—Preparatory for the winter large gangs of men are employed in putting the tracks of the B. C. Electric Railway Company in order all over the city. Where they need it they are being ballasted, and when the work is finished a decided improvement will be noticeable in the smoother running of the cars.

Vast Showing of Ladies' Suits at $16.75, $30 and $35

The season's very best in Women's Costumes are fully exemplified in this vast gathering of beautiful effects. The materials include fine Venetian serges, broadcloths and diagonals in striped and plain effects of all colors. The coats are cut along most graceful lines, being from 42 to 52 inches long—mostly of the semi-loose style. Some are beautifully trimmed with large jet buttons and fancy inlaid braid, while the sleeves have cuffs. The skirts are exceedingly stylish, being the new circular cut and pleated—a great number having the new yoke effect. In all, any lady, no matter how fastidious and particular she may be, will find a costume that is not only reasonably priced, but one that will suit her to the highest degree. Prices are $16.75, $30 and $35.00

Latest and Most Snappy Styles in Footwear

The popularity of our showing of stylish and reliable footwear comes as a recognition of the unbeatable values presented. They are the best goods for the money it is possible to get, and it is well to remember that we stand behind every pair of shoes we sell. Any complaint as to wear has only to be mentioned to us and the utmost satisfaction will be cheerfully given. This season we are carrying a larger stock than ever before, including complete showings of such well known shoes as the "Edwin C. Burt," New York, and the famous American "Queen Quality" shoe for women, while for men we have the popular "Quite Right" brand of shoes, and a host of others.

In the ladies' section there are several new styles shown. In many cases the casts and patterns show a decided change from last year. We detail a few below:

A STRIKINGLY SMART BOOT is one made of a combination of brown cloth top with bronze kid vamp. Two button. High Cuban heel $6.00

CRAVENETTE CLOTH, the new material for shoes, has proven immensely popular. We have it in button style, grey and brown $5.00

A VERY GENTEEL BOOT, in patent coltskin, with black suede top, perforated vamps, lace, high Cuban heels $6.00

LADIES' HOCKEY BOOT, of tan oil grain leather with waterproof sole. A splendid boot to wear in wet weather.... $5.50

LADIES' LEATHER LINED BOOT, with heavy Goodyear welt soles. A splendid shoe for winter wear, of vici kid, at $4.00
Of velour calf, at $4.50

LADIES' LACE BOOT, dull kid tops, patent colt or vici kid vamps, without toe caps, high Cuban heel. Edwin C. Burt $6

LADIES' LACE BOOT, plain vici kid, self tops, broad orthopedic toes and common sense heels, at $4.50

LADIES' LACE BOOTS, for heavy out-of-door service in wet weather. Made of tan, oil grain leather, with waterproof sole. A more practical and serviceable boot cannot be made of leather .. $5.50

Splendid Values, Men's High-grade Footwear

Merit in shoes means satisfaction to dealer and customer. For this reason we take particular pleasure in calling your attention to our line of Men's Shoes for Fall. Built on honor and combining style, fit and quality, we claim that they are unequalled anywhere at the price. No matter what your needs are in shoes, we can meet them from our most extensive range. You should do yourself justice by calling and seeing our stock before buying your Fall shoes.

A WORKING MAN'S BOOT, the famous "Gorilla" Boot, blucher cut, full bellows tongue, heavy screwed soles, wide fitting. Brutally strong $3.50

A STRONG BOOT for out-of-door workers is this one of stout cowhide tops and heavy screwed sole. Wear guaranteed, at $2.75

MEN'S TAN CALF BLUCHER, the dressiest heavy tan shoe imaginable. Double sole to heel. Square edge, rope-stitched, leather lined. Waterproof sole... $5.50

MEN'S DRESS BOOTS, for a smart dress boot it is admitted that there is nothing equal to patent leather. Many shapes and patterns, at $4.50 and $5.00

WINTER CALF BLUCHER, tan, with heavy sole. A thoroughly reliable boot for wet weather $4.00

MEN'S SPORTING BOOTS, 12-inch tops, tan or black, oil grain leather.... $5.00
A veritable Rock of Comfort—

MEN'S BOX CALF BOOT, plain toes, wide last $3.00

BOYS' SCHOOL BOOTS, strong box calf, Blucher cut. Made to wear well and look well—
Sizes 11 to 13 ..... $2.25
Sizes 1 to 5 ..... $2.50

BOYS' PATENT LEATHER BOOT, Goodyear welt soles. Smart style last; sizes 1 to 5½ $3.50

Try our special line of FINE CHOCOLATES, at, per lb 40c

DELICIOUS CHOCOLATES, fresh daily, at, per lb 60c

DAVID SPENCER, LTD.

PROGRAMME FOR SAANICH FAIR

Sports and Horse Racing Attractions at Farmers' Show.

The annual fair at Saanich, which is to be held on Friday and Saturday next will be one of the best that has been held in the district. Not only will there be the usual exhibits of fruit, vegetables, stock, domestic products, and art, but there is to be a good programme of sports, including trotting and running races open to residents in the district.

Friday will be devoted to the placing and judging of exhibits in the hall.

On Saturday, Visitors' Day, judging of all live stock will take place during the forenoon, commencing at 9 a. m. The sports will be held in the afternoon. The programme follows:

Cricket match—1 p. m., Strawberry Vale vs. Saanich.
Horse racing—2 p. m.
Trotting race—Half mile heats, best two in three, first, $15; second, $10. Open to all horses that have been owned by resident farmers of the district for six months previous to the race and that have never before won a race.
Running race—Half mile dash, first, $10; second, $5. Same conditions as above.

Foot Racing.

Five mile race—First prize, gold watch value $25, donated by Messrs. Challoner & Mitchell. Open to all amateurs who have not won a race at this distance this year.
One mile race—First race, mandolin value $12.50, donated by The Hicks and Lovick Piano Co., Ltd. Open to all amateurs who have not won a race at this distance this year.
Quarter mile race—Prize, value $7.50. Open to amateurs who have never won a race at this distance this year.
One hundred yards sprint—Prize, value $10. Open to amateurs.
Ladies' race—100 yards. Prize, value $5.

Entries close Friday, October 1st, 1909. Entrance fee 25 cents. Entries to be left with F. Turgoose, Saanichton, or the Victoria Sporting Goods Co., Douglas street.

V. & S. trains will leave the Market station on Saturday at 8 a. m., 1 p. m. and 3 p. m. Returning will leave Saanichton at 1.45 p. m. and 5.45 p. m.

Luncheon will be provided by the Anti-Tuberculosis League.

PROMPT ACTION ON HUGE ISLAND ENTERPRISE

(Continued from page 1.)

Benefit the Island.

That the spending of these huge sums of money mentioned will mean very much, goes without saying, and the immediate benefits will be great and apparent to all the commercial communities on the Island, especially to Victoria, but the joint enterprises will mean much more—in the opening up for settlement one of the most attractive areas in the province of British Columbia if not in the whole of Canada. The district has long been regarded as a sportsman's paradise, and its scenic beauties and potential wealth find no parallel in western America, but it has been inaccessible save to the venturesome fisherman or hunter. Now, however, its doors will be opened by the magic iron horse, and there is the best of reason for believing that it will develop and become populated with great rapidity.

Splendid Timber District.

It will be recalled in this connection that some months ago R. Marpole, in referring to the timber area of Cowichan district, said that it was the most magnificent he had seen in the whole province, and he remarked further: "There is freight there for a railway, in the timber alone, for fifty years to come."

An important feature about the deal which has just been closed is that the Securities Company made a good bargain respecting freight rates. This low rate will apply not only to the timber of the company mentioned but to the product of other mills using the line.

Ward Completed Deal.

The deal was put through by W. A. Ward, so well known in Victoria, assisted by connections in Seattle and New York, and the successful conclusion of negotiations involving the transfer of such large sums of money is made the occasion of hearty congratulations from his friends.

In conversation with the Times at the Empress this morning, Mr. Ward said he had the best of reasons for believing that this—the deal in which he was concerned—was but the forerunner of the introduction of further large sums of money for the development of Vancouver Island, which just now stood in high favor with the investing public. In particular he was sure that British capitalists would very shortly give evidence that they have their eyes on Vancouver Island.

FARMERS' INSTITUTE MEETING THIS WEEK

First of Series of Lectures at Gordon Head This Evening.

Gordon Head, Sept. 27.—Farmers' Institute meetings will be held this week as follows: At Gordon Head this evening, M. A. Hull will lecture on "Poultry" and Miss Laura Rose on "Women's Institutes and Domestic Science." On the 28th inst., at North Dairy school, R. M. Winslow will lecture on "Fruit Growing," and Miss Laura Rose on "Domestic Science." At South Saanich Temperance hall on Wednesday evening, September 29th, R. M. Winslow will lecture on "Fruit Growing" and Miss Laura Rose on "Domestic Science."

The Harvest Thanksgiving in connection with the St. Luke's church, Cedar Hill, will be held on September 30th, at 3.30 p.m.

Andrew Gillespie has completed his fine dwelling on the Cedar Hill cross roads.

William Woods is building a cottage on Pollock road.

Miss Mabel Irvine is visiting Seattle and the A.-Y.-P. exposition.