

The Colonist.

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MAINLAND MATTERS. Fine Weather—Fruit Growing—Missing Men Found—A Story of Suffering.

(From the Kamloops Sentinel.) The cattle ranchers in the vicinity of Spence's Bridge have no cause to complain about a hard winter, for up to now the mercury has not dropped to zero.

The promise with which the provincial government directed that a search party be sent to find the missing men...

Mr. Macleod, Dominion land agent at New Westminster, returned to the coast on Wednesday night after spending a week in this city looking up the titles...

STEAMER RATE CUTTING. SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 28.—Manager Evans of the Pacific Coast Steamship Co., stated this morning that Friday's rate cutting was just the beginning of a war...

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B. G. FRUIT GROWERS.

Opening of the Annual Convention—Election of Officers for the Ensuing Year.

Important Papers Read and Interesting Discussions—Fruit Pests—Hints to Horticulturists.

Representative agriculturists, fruit growers and delayers from all parts of the province, with just a sprinkling, too, of visitors from the Sound, were in Victoria Monday for the purpose of attending the annual meeting of the Horticultural and Fruit Growers' Association...

There is no time of the year when more attention will be given to fruit matters than just at the time when fruit is being handled, and especially at exhibitions where the different exhibitors are all anxious to excel each other and have their display not only the finest in appearance but made up of the best specimens of the kind...

Another improvement is noticeable in the better class of fruits we find on the show tables. It used to be only the great large apples, regardless of quality or variety, that were the order of the day...

Mr. Henry, on behalf of the spraying association, said that his experiments not having been successful, he would next year take up the subject at greater length.

Mr. Kipp, member of the experimental committee, presented the following report: I have been asked to give my experience in spraying. I must go back three years to begin with.

The second year I began again. I ordered a large pump from S. Cawley, but it got lost in shipment and did not arrive until February 1894, so that I was left with my old squirt-gun again...

When 1894 dawned on us again my pump was unsearched somewhere in New West. It was found and forwarded to Chilliwack. This year I determined to change my spray. The mixture I began to use was four pounds vitriol, four pounds sulphur, fifty gallons water, and began on April 11.

Nov. 22—By balance forward \$124 88. Government grant 600 00. Membership fees 40 00. Total \$764 88.

An auditing committee was next appointed, to which the annual report was submitted.

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Mr. Henry, of Hazelton, then made the following report on exhibitions:

I was called upon by the association last autumn to visit the following exhibitions for the purpose of naming the different varieties of fruit and also to act in the capacity of judge thereon: Langley Prairie, October 3; Mission City, October 4; Surrey, October 5; Westside, October 9 to 12; Chilliwack, October 17.

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growing markets here and thus retain the thousands of dollars now going out of the province for fruit.

Mr. Olson while observing that it was hardly time to report on the experiments made, recommended the use as a spray of white oil, soap and lime.

Mr. Todd, Cedar Hill, spoke of the good effect of the Bordeaux mixture on pear affected with fungus, showing samples which had been treated.

Mr. Palmer said that the old bark could be scraped off with safety, an opinion in which Mr. Renouf concurred.

Mr. Renouf knew of trees which had been rendered free of pests by spraying with a proportion of one of mercuric iodine to five of water.

Mr. Kipp observed that unless insect pests were got rid of fruit growers would have to go out of the business.

Mr. Cunningham spoke of the great number of cherries which could be successfully raised in this province.

At 2 o'clock a meeting of the members for the election of the new board of directors was held. A majority of the members of the old board were elected for the ensuing year.

For assisting exhibition associations in Henry, P. Latham, E. H. Gawn, E. Hutcheon, G. A. H. B. Macgowan, J. C. Elton, G. A. H. B. Macgowan, T. A. Sharpe.

On transportation and packages—R. M. O'Connell, G. W. Henry, R. M. O'Connell, G. W. Henry, R. M. O'Connell, G. W. Henry.

To make experiments in spraying, more especially for fungus diseases, and to furnish the fruit growers of British Columbia with sufficient funds to supply our

Latham, W. J. Moggridge, S. Sberdahl and George Malinsh.

The business of the convention proper having been resumed:

Mr. W. H. Price read the following paper entitled "Hints to Fruit Growers by a Fruit Preserver":

Mr. Anderson, when he requested me to read a paper, chose for me the subject of "Fruit Preserving." I thought that my impressions and observations of the fruit preserving trade and the difference in the quality and variety of fruits would be more for our advantage.

As to gooseberries, I am afraid to speak. We had them from different parts of the province, and only in one instance could I say they were satisfactory.

Mr. Cunningham regretted seeing such a poor Mainland representation of the association, but attributed it to the Fraser river freshet last year.

Mr. Renouf presented a resolution in which he asked that the government should be asked to provide financial assistance for the fruit growers of this province.

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most equal parts of the fruit named and preserved. For instance, if for every preserve, 100 pounds of fruit should be accompanied by 100 pounds of sugar, and I can conceive nothing worse to happen to the fruits of the province than that they should get into the hands of men who turn our mixtures called preserves which only contain 40 per cent. of the fruit from which the preserves are made.

Preserves are now being sold at a price we cannot get the fruit for, and it is for the fruit growers to take this matter up and have the name of the fruit of the province protected. You must take care of the character of your fruit, so that your products will be asked for. British Columbia fruits, (dried or milled) are in the fruit to be preserved or canned, and though perfection can never be attained, a high degree of excellence may be reached and better results got by close attention to the nature and condition of the fruit and sugar used.

Mr. O'Connell said that during the three years' existence of the Fruit Preserving Company they had been at an expenditure of \$8,000 for fruit, \$8,000 for sugar, and \$8,000 for fuel, and although the company had struck bedrock financially in running their business during the past year, yet the shareholders were willing to renew their stock in anticipation of good times.

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