

461,396

Ottawa, 25th August, 1914.

Sir,-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 29th June on the subject of fruit culture by Indians of British Columbia, which letter has been read with interest; and in reply I beg to say that the Department approves of your suggestion that the Indians in general be encouraged to join the Farmers' Institutes in order that they may have the benefit of lectures delivered by Specialists on Agriculture sent out by the Provincial Department of Agriculture. The Department also approves of an effort being made to have the Indians exhibit their fruit, etc. at the local fairs in their respective neighborhoods.

I may say that for many years the Department has made an annual grant of \$500.00 to the Provincial Exhibition Association at New Westminster in support of an Indian section in the Exhibition. The grant has been made upon the understanding that all Indians attending the fair receive free admission thereto. Many Indians from the different Agencies have exhibited at the fair, not only their handiwork, but also fruit, vegetables, and grain grown by themselves and have been successful in obtaining prizes. Apparently also they have attended the annual exhibitions.

In addition to making the above mentioned grant, the
Department

A. Megraw, Esq.,
Inspector of Indian Agencies,
Vernon, B.C.

Indian Affairs, Letterbook,
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