

PROGRESS OF THE PROVINCE

(Continued from Page Six.)
Liar marks apply. At both places a large amount of literature was distributed.

The province exhibited, as usual, at the Royal Horticultural Society's exhibition, London, Eng., where it was awarded a gold medal for the fifth year in succession, four silver-gilt and three silver medals for individual merit.

Best Advertised Province. As the cumulative result of exhibition work throughout Great Britain for the last five years, I have no hesitation in saying that British Columbia is the best advertised province of the Dominion in that country at the present time.

The demand for practical information at all these shows was very great, and a large influx of people to engage in mixed farming, dairying, poultry keeping and fruit-growing may reasonably be expected.

The culminating triumph of our fruit in England this year was at the special visit to the gallery in order to view the British Columbia exhibit. The King manifested great interest in our exhibit and asked many questions about the fruit industry of the province.

The returns for the creameries made in 1909, from about which data the business was established in a regular way, have steadily increased. The four pioneer creameries—Delta, Cowichan, Cowichan and New Westminster—showed a total of \$50,500.

The crops last year were on the whole, owing to unfavorable weather conditions, below the average. Fruit was practically a failure, and some of the localities in the interior produced more than 25 per cent. of the previous year's output.

The value of agricultural products imported, \$3,841,550 worth of goods represents imports from eastern points in Canada, and \$1,259,000 was entered and paid duty. The quantity of home-grown stuff as compared with the imported articles is almost startling at first sight.

Imports. For instance the figures show that overland imports were: Sheep (live), 13,740; sheep (carcasses), 61,000; total, 74,740; value, \$373,700.

Of products that came foreign and paid duty the following were: Eggs, \$132,500; Cereal foods, 26,111; Sheep, 175,733; Horses, 41,834; Cattle, 11,474; Fruit, 275,175; Preserved fruits, 27,616; Hay, 41,778; Jellies, jams, etc., 47,486; Malt, 18,034; Condensed milk, 27,475; Pickles, 12,960; Nursery stock, 30,220; Butter, 193,726; Cheese, 30,207; Lard, 219,237; Bacon and ham, 324,236; Canned meats, 13,978; Mutton and lamb, 2,200; Pork, 10,498.

and so on, making up a total of \$1,286,757. While there probably never will be a time when we shall not import largely of some, perhaps many of these items, they all represent what we are now producing or could produce for ourselves.

Our opposition friends will tell us that the government policy has been opposed to settlement on account of certain lands being sold to speculators, and much else we have heard about in this house; but they forget that all the lands the province has had for settlement for some years past lie in the valleys of the interior,

which require railway transportation and roads to make accessible. The only agricultural lands of any extent not taken up that exist within easy reach of lines of railway are within the limits of the Dominion railway belt, over which, of course, the government has no jurisdiction.

The government has done what it could, as I have already pointed out, in assisting and encouraging the farmer in every way possible. This year we are appropriating \$107,000 for agricultural purposes, as follows: Farmers' Institutes, \$12,000; B. C. Stockraisers' Association, 2,500; B. C. Fruitgrowers' Association, 2,500; B. C. Board of Horticulture, 5,000; B. C. Department of Agriculture (general fund), 20,000; B. C. agricultural fairs, 10,000; Fruit shows, 10,000.

But in addition to that we spent last year over \$2,000,000 in roads, streets and highways. This year we are appropriating over \$4,000,000 for public works, a large portion of which will be applied in a similar manner. There is also a similar manner. There is also a similar manner.

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season, was over 1,600,000 cases. The whaling industry, though in a satisfactory condition, was not as good as the previous year, the record of which was almost phenomenal. The catch was equal to that in the previous year, but the earnings were less on account of decreased prices.

With regard to the fisheries of the Fraser river, to which I have previously referred as being seriously affected by the fishermen on Puget Sound operating under the jurisdiction of the State of Washington and unlawfully taking salmon, as you know there was an international fisheries commission appointed for the purpose of investigating and recommending a system of uniform and common international regulations for the protection and preservation of the food fishes in international boundary waters of the United States and Canada.

The international regulations provided for by this report appear to be of the whole satisfactory, but the difficulty is that the State of Washington disputes the right of the Federal government to interfere in any way with the operation of State laws, and while the State and Federal governments are contesting their respective rights in regard to control, the regulations themselves are very strong come a dead letter.

Summarizing the production of the year, the total shown to the credit of the province is most gratifying. It is not possible to obtain accurate figures under each head, but approximately, the result of a very careful and conservative estimate based upon data obtained from a number of reliable sources, the aggregates may be set down as follows for products under the following heads:

Total, \$82,500,000; in round numbers, \$315 per head per inhabitant of British Columbia. (Applause)—showing I am quite satisfied will compare with the productive capacity of any country in the world.

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