

market has now been diverted almost entirely to New York state. This is another instance where there is no way of remedying conditions, because the Railway Commission has said, 'These companies are not owned, chartered or used by the railway companies subject to the jurisdiction of the Board for the carrying of traffic, and are not, therefore, under the Board's control.'

Mr. ARMSTRONG, M.P. (Chairman).—Now I would like to read just a clause or two from the Secretary of the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario, Transportation Committee at Forest, Ont. :—

In regard to shipments by water last year, 52,053,913 tons of freight passes through the various canals. Of this amount 39,951,661 tons were products of mines, 8,522,327 tons the products of agriculture, and the next highest was that of manufactures, 1,881,699 tons. It is well to note that the average rate per ton on Canadian traffic by water in 1912 was 91.04 cents, and in 1913 it was 99.37, while for the same years American traffic was 56.62 cents and 55.19 cents, respectively. Canadian traffic increased per ton in 1913 while American traffic decreased.

Mr. ARMSTRONG, M.P. (Chairman).—The fruit interests of British Columbia give their views in a letter of which I will read a copy as sent to Mr. Robert F. Green, M.P. :—

NAKUSP, B.C., April 6, 1914.

ROBT. F. GREEN, Esq., M.P.,
Ottawa, Ont.

DEAR SIR,—The fruit interests of B.C. are very much interested in House of Commons Bill number eighty-five. This Bill, I think, is being pushed by J. E. Armstrong, M.P., of Lambton.

As it is so far away from Ottawa, I don't know how the Bill is getting along, but it would appear to me that there will be a lot of opposition to such a Bill, therefore I will ask you to give your support to this Bill, and if convenient kindly convey to Mr. Armstrong that he has the solid support of the fruit interests of British Columbia, and that as a member of the British Columbia Fruit Growers' Association I wish him every success.

If the Bill has not already passed, I will ask you to help in getting it put through, during the present session, as it is of great importance to the fruit interests, as well as all other lines of merchandise that have to be carried by the ordinary lines of transportation. Should you not be too pressed for time, let me know how this Bill is progressing, or if it is passed, or is it side-stepped for the present, but try and do not let the latter happen to same.

You might send me a copy of said Bill, if there is any of them printed.

Sorry to be bothering you with so many letters, but this Bill is of great importance to our interests, therefore I think it is my duty to help, if a letter will aid.

I remain, yours respectfully,

THOS. ABRIEL,
Vice-President, B.C.F.G. Assn.

Mr. ARMSTRONG, M.P. (Chairman).—There is a strong representation from the vegetable growers, as follows :—

I note by the morning paper that Leamington waited upon the Government one hundred strong, asking that they be granted a large appropriation for a harbour. This is the same cry that every other port on the lakes is making. What avails it, for the Government to spend our millions opening harbours for the transportation companies, who are willing to accept the advantages of them,