CONSERVATIVE CLUB MEETS AT QUESNEL

Successful Annual Gathering—Many New Members Enrolled

Quesnel, Jan. 10.—The annual meeting of the Quesnel Conservative club was held in the dance hall on Thursday January 9. A most enthusiastic meeting was held, in which the most notable feature was the harmony of the proceedings. The president, J. A. Fraser, being absent, a letter of regret from him was read by the secretary. After the secretary's report had been read an invitation was extended to any persons wishing to join the Conservative association. Eighteen new members were enrolled.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Hon. president, J. A. Fraser; president, John Holt; secretary, T. Fletcher; treasurer, E. L. Hepner. F. S. Shepherd, W. J. Andrews and W. L. Collins were electel members of the executive committee.

Before adjourning the following motion was moved and carried unanimously: We, the members of the Quesnel Conservative club, send to the premier, the Hon. R. McBride, a vote of confidence in the present government and pledge ourselves to do all in our power to return two Conservative members for Cariboo at the next Provincial election."

The meeting was closed with cheers for the Conservative party and the Hon. R. McBride.

A supper was served in the Occidental hotel, at which over fifty were present. After partaking of the good things provided the following toasts were proposed:

"The King," by Mr. Holt.

"Our Leader, R. L. Borden," by F. S. Shepherd.

"Our Premier, the Hon. R. McBride," by W. L. Collins.

"The President of the Association," by Elmore Wells. Mr. Holt in reply thanked the members for the honor done him in electing him to the office.

"Our New Members" was responded to by W. J. Andrews.

"The Ladies," with two such well-known ladies' men as Jas. Deacon and Wm. Kennedy to reply, this toast was nobly responded to.

"Our Visitors" was responded to by Mr. Gaskell, of Kimberley.

After a very pleasant time the annual meeting, which was the largest and most enthusiastic political meeting ever held in Quesnel, adjourned.

COMMITTED FOR TRIAL

Second of Japanese Charged With Attacking Vancouver Firemen Sent Up

Vancouver, Jan. 15.—The second Japanese was committed for trial this afternoon in connection with the New Year's row with the firemen. The two other arrested Japanese were dismissed, it being shown that they could not have been engaged in the fight.

The fact that blood was found on the two men committed for trial is practically the only means of identifying them.

Fireman Frost gave new evidence in declaring that while the fight proceeded he was borne to the ground on top of one Japanese. This fellow held him down while another cut his nose off.

Before the assizes the charge may be amended from attempted murder to wounding with intent to maim.

BURGLARS OPERATE

Signs of an Organized Gang Being at Work in Vancouver Business District

Vancouver, Jan. 15.—Burglars are at large in the downtown commercial districts, and up to the present they have succeeded in baffling the police. Premises are being entered almost nightly, and goods taken, but the marauders always manage to get away.

At I. Rubinowitz' department store, at the corner of Hastings and Abbott streets, last evening entrance was gained through a transom over the back door. Some Mexican and other odd coins were taken amongst other things.

The police were notified and the premises were inspected and the surrounding district scoured, but without success. Sergeant Preston, Detectives Jackson and McLeod, Sergeant Macaulay and Constable Champion joined in the search.

Last Sunday night a very similar robbery was recorded at Hughes Bros.' store at 105 Hastings street. The amount of goods taken was not large.

It is thought by the police that the two robberies were perpetrated by an organized gang, and every effort will be made to run them to earth.

Proposed Co-Operative Store.

New Westminster, Jan. 15.—A proposition is on foot to establish a co-operative store in this city, the scheme having the support of the labor element. The B. C. Electric company are strongly in favor of the idea and have promised the organizers hearty support. W. Dodd, secretary of the local branch of the Canadian labor party, is back of the movement. During the past two weeks, he has disposed of $2,000 worth of stock in the concern, and is sanguine of placing $5,000 worth of shares out before the end of the month.

LINGERED TOO LONG

Candidate for South Vancouver Reeveship Allowed Nomination Hour to Slip By

Vancouver, Jan. 15.—Because he lingered around the polling booths with his nomination paper in his pocket and did not deliver it to the returning officer until four minutes too late, it is altogether likely that Thomas Bell is out of the running for the reeveship in South Vancouver.

Nominations occurred there yesterday. Reeve Rae and Mr. Bell were in the field for the chief municipal office. Bell's nomination papers, handed in at 1:30, were irregular and the clerk, W. G. Walker, informed him that a change would have to be made. Mr. Bell attended to the matter, but did not turn in the rearranged papers.

"I declare Mr. Rae re-elected by acclamation," said the returning officer at 2:04 o'clock.

The Bell section of the meeting rose as one man and the storm of protest was loud and angry.

Mr. Bell said "My goodness," and pulled the papers out of his pocket. Everybody became very much excited. Mr. Walker and the others compared their watches and finally the officer decided that he would allow Mr. Bell's name to go through.

Today Mr. Rae is trying to obtain an order from the Supreme court to prevent the returning officer from issuing a proclamation for the election for reeve.

Last night a very lively meeting of ratepayers was held. Mr. Rorison, a temperance advocate from Vancouver, attended, but the meeting would not allow him to speak. He ascended the platform, but the catcalls were too fierce and he had to retire, after making many excited gesticulations.

THEATRE BLAZE

Accident in Royal City That Was Fortunately Not Attended by Panic

New Westminster, Jan. 15.—A fire which might have been fraught with serious consequences but for the fact that the hall was almost empty at the time it occurred yesterday evening at the new Royal theatre, when a box of films were ignited by a stick of red-hot carbon.

Only about twenty-five people were in the building at the time, and these hastily made their way outside, no panic or stampede talking place. Had the accident occurred earlier in the evening, when a large number of children were attending the show the result would have been vastly different, as the place filled with thick smoke immediately the films started to burn, and a rush for the exits would have been almost certain to take place.

The damage amounts to nearly $200, some of the films destroyed being hand colored, and very expensive. C. L. Cole, who was operating the picture machine at the time the blaze started, states that he has been doing similar work for the past two years. Fire Chief Watson will refuse to permit the performance to continue until proper precautions are taken against a recurrence of yesterday's accident.

LICENSE COMMISSION

Vancouver Body Somewhat Mixed Up by Change in Government Representatives

Vancouver, Jan. 15.—The government appointees on the license commission of last year had been privately informed of the ruling of City Solicitor Cowan that Commissioners Watson and Tiffin were the only men who could represent the government at a session of the board, so neither Mr. Ross nor Mr. Davis put in an appearance at yesterday afternoon's meeting.

The situation was, however, alluded to several times by Commissioner Hunt when matters discussed at the commission's previous sitting were brought up. He claimed it would have been much better had the old body heard the reports as they were already conversant with the matters.

Commissioner Watson and Tiffin, striving to get in touch with the various questions despite their ignorance of the ins and outs of the license by-laws, admitted that Commissioner Hunt's contention was probably correct. But Mayor Bethune looked wise and said no other commission than one constituted as the one sitting could legally act. And that ended the discussion every time.

WORK FOR EXHIBITION

Members of Vancouver Association Propose to Keep Their Project Alive

Vancouver, Jan. 15.—A meeting of the Exhibition association will be held on Thursday evening at which the future course of the organization, in view of the turning down of the by-law of $50,000 for exhibition purposes by the Vancouver electorate will be considered.

The leaders of the movement for an exhibition state that the general feeling among the membership is that the association should keep at work during the year, devoting its energies to the clearing of the grounds at Hastings and laying its plans more perfectly for the inauguration of the exhibition in 1909. By next January it is believed the disputed points as to the lease of the Hastings reserve will have been settled, and the additional work done on the grounds will have placed the scheme in such a favorable light before the electorate that there will be but little doubt of the passage of an exhibition bylaw at that time.

STRONG-ARM MAN

Jack McArthur, Logger, Knocks Vancouver Policemen Around Like Ninepins

Vancouver, Jan. 15.—Jack McArthur a logger, regarded by the police as the strongest man in British Columbia, was before Judge Cane yesterday afternoon on the charge of having assaulted a police officer. He was acquitted, the court holding that in the first place the officer had no valid reason to arrest McArthur, and in the second place, that the assault was of a very minor character.

It required three police officers to handle McArthur, and then they were up against a pretty hard proposition. Batons had to be used freely, and even with his hands shackled the husky logger kept them all guessing.

McArthur was being followed by one police officer when another stopped him. McArthur picked the officer up and threw him out of the way, but by that time there were three on top of him. The officer who arrested him, and who laid the charge had no warrant for his arrest; he saw him do nothing that would merit arrest, and he did not even question him before making the arrest, which he is required by law to do.

McArthur seldom appears in police circles, but when he does there is always an interesting story behind his arrest. It is necessary to beat him almost into insensibility before he can be taken, and never has the burly logger come into the police station but that his face is besmeared with blood, and the officers who accompany him the worse of wear. On one occasion when McArthur was wanted the police waited outside a saloon for a whole night before they got him. They did not want to go in after him because they knew there would be some real trouble. They accepted the course of lying outside. Their work was facilitated, however, by the fact that McArthur fell asleep in the saloon, and while in this state the police shackled him.

A cat belonging to a family named Miles has died at South Shields at the age of twenty-eight years.

B.C. FRUIT GROWERS IN ANNUAL SESSION

Interesting Papers on the Past Year's Work Presented—Officers Elected

(From Thursday's Daily.)

At the annual meeting of the British Columbia Fruit Growers' association held yesterday afternoon in the council chamber at the city hall the annual reports of the president, secretary and executive committee were submitted, the officers elected and an interesting paper given by Thomas Brydon on "Better Fruit and How to Obtain It." The meeting was briefly addressed by Mayor Morley who lauded the work of the association and pointed out the necessity of the fruit growers of the province organizing in order to obtain the best price for their product and further the welfare of the industry, one which would soon be the most important in the province.

Those present at the meeting were: James Johnson, Nelson, president of the association; Thomas Wilson, Vancouver; F. Sere, South Saanich; R. Layritz, South Saanich; George Stewart, Keating; Mrs. Whyte Birch, Sidney; Thomas Brydon, South Saanich; Charles F. Sprott, Burnaby; Lieutenant Alliston, Victoria; W. F. Summers, Victoria, and W. J. Brandrith, Ladner, secretary.

Secretary's Report

The secretary's report, submitted as follows, was adopted:

During the year I have attended forty-three meetings, held for purposes of instruction or in the interests of co-operation amongst the fruit growers.

Eight hundred and seventy-five letters have been written, and 6,785 miles traveled on the business of the association.

It is very gratifying to me to be able to announce a substantial increase in the membership. There is still room for improvement in that respect however.

The fruit crop, taking the province as a whole, was below the average, attributed to early frosts in some sections, hail in others, and drought in others.

The strawberry crop would average not more than 85 per cent. Raspberries about the same. Blackberries, being later, got the benefit of the early fall rains, and would round out about 90 per cent.

The sweet cherry crop suffered the most, there not being over 60 per cent of crop. Sour cherries were about an average.

White pears were above the average.

Peaches were a full crop, except where the trees had suffered from the severity of the preceding winter.

Superior Quality

Early apples were not as heavy as last year, but late varieties rounded out a full crop.

One thing is particularly noticeable with regard to the fruit—more especially apples—and that is the superior quality of the fruit over past years. This very satisfactory condition is mainly due to better methods of cultivation.

Prices have been better than ever before in the history of the industry. The increased railway mileage opened up by the C. P. R. and C. N. R. in Alberta and Saskatchewan has given us a wider market and the rapid filling up of those provinces and Manitoba means a market which will be limited only by our ability to supply it.

With the constantly increasing markets in our own country, Great Britain and Ireland, New Zealand, Australia, China, Japan, Siberia and Mexico, no branch of agriculture offers better opportunities for profitable investment than fruit growing in British Columbia and no province in the Dominion is so favorably situated with regard to these markets, or has the varieties of soil and climate essential to the production of the high class fruit these markets call for.

Taking all things into consideration, we are forced to the conclusion that notwithstanding the occasional reverses to which the fruit growers are subjected, the outlook for the careful grower is most encouraging. The province is to be congratulated on the continued successes achieved by our fruit in Great Britain, under the careful management of Mr. R. M. Palmer.

Splendid Results

The result of the competition at the N. W. F. G. convention, held in Vancouver in December last, was as great a surprise to us as to our competitors from Hood river and Wenatchee. The value to the province of this splendid advertisement cannot be computed in dollars and cents.

We have yet to learn of any steps being taken by the Dominion government to accede to our repeated requests for experimental orchards on Vancouver island, in the Kootenay, and in the Dry Belt. Neither has any attention been paid to our reasonable request, backed by the late Dominion conference, to compel manufacturers of jams and jellies to print the formula on their labels.

We wish to express our appreciation of the action of the Dominion government in authorizing Tom Wilson to undertake the cleansing of the Indian orchards at our request, and we venture to request that this work be continued.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the officers and members for their forbearance toward my shortcomings, and for the valuable assistance I have received at their hands.

W. J. BRANDRITH, Sec'y.

Executive Report

The report of the executive committee was read by the secretary and is given below:

Gentlemen: Your executive committee beg to report that, acting on instructions received at the annual meeting, the secretary invited delegates from the strawberry growing sections to meet at Mission City, for the purpose of agreeing on a uniform price for small fruit.

The meeting was held March 29, and a minimum price agreed to.

On March 7 a largely attended meeting was held at Keating, and addresses given by Messrs. Brydon, Johnstone, Scott and Brandrith. On the 8th, a meeting was held in Duncans, addressed by Messrs. Johnstone and Brandrith, and on the 9th, the juryroom in the court house at Nanaimo was comfortably filled to hear the same speakers and Maxwell Smith.

On April 1, at the quarterly meeting held in Summerland, a resolution was passed unanimously, requesting the association to call a meeting of delegates from the various local associations and exchanges to devise some plan to obviate the present unsatisfactory method of distribution of our fruit. Accordingly, delegates were invited to meet at Sicamous, April 24, but owing to want of room there the delegates proceeded to Armstrong, where it was decided to organize the "Fruit and Produce Exchange of British Columbia." A draft constitution and bylaws were drawn, the meeting then adjourning to meet at Revelstoke May 22 to perfect the organization, which was finally consummated June 22.

Practical Work

At Summerland, April 2, Mr. Brandrith gave practical demonstration in pruning in the forenoon, and in the afternoon on the proper method of mixing and applying sprays. On the 3rd Messrs. Johnstone and Brandrith proceeded to Kelowna, where in the afternoon tree planting was demonstrated to a large and appreciative audience. The meeting in the evening was fairly well attended, although a bazaar in aid of the hospital was being held in the same building.

On the 4th, at Vernon, despite the rain, there was a good turnout to the demonstration in planting and pruning, and a fairly well attended meeting in the evening.

A well attended meeting was held in Armstrong on the 6th, addressed by Messrs. Johnstone and Brandrith on subjects of interest to the growers.

At Salmon Arm, on the 8th, addresses were delivered by the same gentlemen to a large gathering, on spraying and co-operation. At Kamloops, on the 9th, planting and pruning were again demonstrated in the afternoon, and addresses delivered in the evening. At all these meetings the idea of a central exchange was enthusiastically received and delegates appointed.

On June 28 a meeting was held in Enderby, addressed by Mr. H. Kipp, who gave a practical demonstration in pruning to an appreciative audience. On the 29th a well attended meeting was held in Revelstoke, addressed by Messrs. Johnstone, Brandrith and Kipp.

July 2 Messrs. Johnstone, Brandrith and Kipp attended the quarterly meeting in Kaslo, and addressed those gathered together on planting, pruning, spraying and allied subjects.

Valuable Information

On the 4th Messrs. Brandrith and Kipp gave demonstrations in planting and pruning at Creston in the afternoon and spoke on spraying, co-operation, etc., in the evening.

On the 5th the same gentlemen addressed an enthusiastic meeting in Cranbrook, on the work of the association, tree planting, pruning, spraying, etc.

On the 8th they demonstrated planting and pruning at Burton in the afternoon, and in the evening addressed a full house on the same subjects as at Cranbrook. On the 10th Mr. Brandrith held a meeting at Enderby, when planting, pruning, spraying, etc., were demonstrated in the afternoon, and a local branch organized in the evening.

From Enderby Mr. Brandrith proceeded to Windermere on the 17th, where he addressed an enthusiastic gathering on planting, pruning, varieties to plant etc.

On the 19th at Wilmer he addressed a large gathering on the same subjects.

At Golden on the 22nd he demonstrated planting and pruning in the afternoon, and in the evening addressed a large gathering on "The Work of the Association," "Varieties to Plant," spraying, etc.

That these meetings are appreciated is evidenced by the fact that requests for their continuance are constantly being received, and more especially from the newer sections of the province; and we strongly recommend that the executive be authorized to continue this part of the work.

Saving in Cost

Pure spraying materials for the use of members has been secured at the lowest cost, and the necessary varieties of paper have also been secured at wholesale.

We would recommend that the secretary be instructed to secure a supply of both for the current year on the best terms possible.

Bradstreet's reports are becoming more valuable to our members each year, and we strongly recommend that the subscription be continued.

Your committee have taken up with the proper authorities the question of better handling and better facilities for fruit shipments by both lake and rail, and have received assurances that every effort will be made to have the fruit properly handled.

They have succeeded in having the gross weight of the 2-5 pound and 4-5 crates fixed at 15 and 25 pounds respectively. They have also urged that a reduction of rates should be made, but as the matter of rates is in the hands of the railway commission and nothing has been done by them up to the present time, we do not know whether our request will be granted or not.

Thanks to Government

We feel that the heartiest thanks of this association are due to the Provincial government for the hearty manner in which they have responded to our requests for aid to enable us to carry on the work made necessary by the increased territory to be covered, and the greater cost of transportation in the outlying districts.

We especially desire to acknowledge our indebtedness to the Hon. R. G. Tatlow for the support he has at all times extended to this association.

We cannot close this report without congratulating the fruit growers of British Columbia on the successes achieved by them at the principal exhibitions in Great Britain, under the capable management of Mr. R. M. Palmer, to whom also the thanks of the fruit growers are due. And also on the eminently successful outcome of the competition at the Northwest Fruit Growers' convention, held in Vancouver in December last.

President's Report.

The report of the president of the association, James Johnston, Nelson, gave full details concerning the formation of the Fruit and Produce Exchange of British Columbia. The report was as follows

During the past season the most important undertaking of this association has been the formation of the Fruit and Produce Exchange of British Columbia. The idea of this exchange was first suggested at our spring quarterly meeting, held in Summerland, and was unanimously indorsed at that meeting, and a resolution passed strongly recommending action to be taken and a central exchange formed. This Summerland resolution was indorsed at Vernon, Kelowna, Armstrong, Salmon Arm, Kamloops and all points visited by your executive during that tour. A meeting of delegates from associations throughout the province was held at Armstrong, by-laws and constitution were drawn up and a meeting called at the earliest possible date to form the exchange. Owing to the fruit season being well advanced before these necessary preliminaries were gone through only five associations formally joined the exchange ,namely, Chilliwack, Kamloops, Salmon Arm, Revelstoke and Kootenay, but during the season fruit and produce was handled from many other local exchanges in the Okanagan and elsewhere. I shall give a brief outline of the object of this central exchange. Full information can be obtained at any time from the secretary, Mr. L. M. Hagar, Revelstoke. The method in which this exchange has been worked and will be worked is as follows:

Work of Central Body.

Weekly reports are sent to the manager of the probable supplies to be obtained from the various local shippers and exchanges. These reports the manager forwards to the solicitors who are employed to canvass the local and Northwest markets. Orders when booked are distributed by our central office to the growers, who receive an acceptance form stating quantity, quality and price. If for some reason when an order is received by an individual or exchange it cannot all be filled the manager is immediately notified and the balance of the order is placed elsewhere. A very important point is that when the solicitors or head office receive special orders for fruit from any one district or grower owing to the superior method of packing or quality of the fruit then if the demand is likely to exceed the supply the solicitors are notified to increase the price to the wholesalers, and thus the careful shipper and the meritorious article will receive the very highest price obtainable. This is the only successful method of co-operation. Otherwise the best men will not join heartily in any co-operative association.

A great saving is effected in the marketing of small perishable fruits by our own men being at the principal points of delivery to make adjustments for fruit in bad condition on arrival. Every shipper must be held responsible for the condition of his fruit at the point of delivery, provided the damage has not been caused by any fault on the part of transportation companies. Should a shipper persist in forwarding badly picked and packed fruit he will be suspended from shipping through the exchange and allowed to find his own market until such time as he learns to handle his product in a proper manner.

Advice for Shippers.

All possible advice and assistance will always be rendered by the exchange management to shippers who, through ignorance, may make mistakes, but wilfulness, carelessness and neglect will receive no consideration. It will be the duty of members of the board to take their turns of being within range of large distributing markets so that if any considerable settlement has been made by an agent the director, being notified by the manager by wire, will turn up on the spot immediately after and check up the honesty of such settlement. A charge of 5 per cent is made to cover expense of selling and collecting accounts in carload lots and 10 per cent on small express shipments. At the end of the season, after allowing a sufficient reserve fund to carry on the business successfully, any surplus cash will be distributed pro rata to all shippers.

The central exchange also intends to adopt a co-operative measure to overcome any financial failures.

In the case of apples, pears, plums, peaches and cherries the best results are obtained by having them conveyed from the orchards to central packing houses and there graded and packed, under the supervision of a competent expert packer. This insures uniformity of pack and grade, which will always command the best prices in the markets and attract the largest and best buyers. The annual general meeting of the exchange takes place early next month, and a large number of associations having signified their intention of joining this season and also individual growers who are situated in districts where no exchange exists. It is confidently expected that at least two-thirds of the fruit and produce of the province will be handled in this co-operative manner.

Scheme Indorsed.

The objects arrived at and methods of working this exchange were presented fully at the last annual international convention of the Northwest Fruit Growers' Associaton, and the whole scheme was heartly indorsed and approved of by men of the greatest experience, such as the Hon .E. L. Smith, president and manager of the Hood River Apple Growers' Union.

The most hearty thanks are due to the Hon. Mr. Tatlow, minister of agriculture, for the great interest he has taken in our work during the season and for the generous support he has given us in this most important work.

We have every reason to believe that the benefits which will result from thus uniting the various fruit growing sections of our province into one co-operative body will more than justify the necessary assistance which our government have given us during the year, and which they have been requested to give us during the present year.

Finances Satisfactory.

The financial report, which showed the association to be in a good financial position, was submitted and adopted, as follows:

RECEIPTS.

By cash on hand and in bank Dec. 31, 1906	$ 345.24
Members subscription fees	202.50
Government grant	2,250.00
Sale of spraying material, blue stone, etc.	339.40
Sale of paper	749.08

EXPENDITURE.

To interest on overdraft	$ 1.15
Stenographer	3.50
Secretary's salary	390.00
Sec. com. on members fees	37.00
Sec. expenses re 1906 audit	20.65
Subscription to Bradstreets	75.00
Telegrams and phones	10.90
Stationery	7.95
Engraving cut for letter heads	3.00
Ptg. $111.45, postage $30	141.45
Desk	16.00
E. C. Dyer, attending an. meet'g	13.50
H. J. Knott, attend. com. meet'g	1.50
Purchase spraying material	731.50
Purchase paper	480.01
M. S. Wade, exp. convention	30.15
R. J. Hogg, exp. convention	13.60
F. H. Wilson, exp. convention	151.20
P. E. Lazenby, exp. convention	32.70
G. E. Hanlivel, exp. convention	33.30
D. Graham, exp. convention	4.75
T. Morley, exp. convention	49.65
J. McCollum, exp. convention	12.70
H. E. R. Smythe. exp. conven.	10.20
H. Kipp, trav. exp. ex. com.	96.90
H. Kline, allowance exp. ex. com.	69.00
Jas. Johnstone, exp. ex. com.	161.75
Jas. Johnstone, allow. ex. com.	165.00
W. J. Brandith, trav. exp.	315.95
W. J. Brandith, exp. ex. com.	327.00
S. Bartholomew, trav. exp.	14.20
S. Bartholomew, allow. ex. com.	15.00
Thos. A. Brydon, trav. exp.	5.00
Thos. A. Brydon, allow. ex. com.	3.00
Cash on hand $163.11	
Bal. in Bank Montreal 284.95	448.06
	$3,886.22

Statement of assets and liabilities for the year ending Dec. 31, 1907:

ASSETS.

By cash on hand and in bank	$ 448.06
Stock on hand, spraying material, etc.	347.67
Stock on hand, paper	204.29
Office furniture, desk	16.00
Overpaid sec. 1 mo. salary	30.00
	$1,046.02

LIABILITIES.

To sundry accts. we owe about	$ 130.00
Excess of assets over all liabil.	916.02
	$1,046.02

Officers Elected.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, James Johnston, Nelson, re-elected; first vice-president S. Bartholomew, Summerland; second vice-president, A. E. Gale, Keating; third vice-president, A. B. McClenaghan, Golden; fourth vice-president, Thomas Wilson, Vancouver; secretary-treasurer, W. J. Brandrith; executive committee, R. M. Palmer, Victoria; H. Kipp, Chilliwack; S. Bartholomew, Summerland; James Johnston, Nelson, and W. J. Brandrith.

In view of the great increase in the work the remuneration of the secretary-treasurer was raised from $30 to $50 per month.

Mayor Morley, who had been expected to be on hand to welcome the delegates, was late in arriving. He stated that owing to press of other work he had been delayed. He addressed the meeting briefly, expressing his regret that there was not a larger attendance. He himself had had experience as a fruit grower in California, and he knew the difficulty the fruit grower experienced in obtaining a market. The only solution of this difficulty lay in organization. Without some such steps being taken the grower would never know what price he could expect for his product. By proper organization the receiving, packing and shipping of the fruit could be done at one-half the expense that would otherwise be necessitated and the work of grading the fruit could also be much better effected. It would be possible to keep in close touch with the world's markets.

Urges Organization.

Unless the growers organized there would be one man who would dominate the market and that was the middleman. The mayor considered it a most promising sign that those engaged in the greatest industry of the province are associating themselves together and aiming for better conditions. He advised all to pull together and they would find that association would be the very best kind of education. With everything conducing to the best interests of the growers it would be, he thought, their own fault if they did not make British Columbia fruit the standard just as the oranges of California had been made the standard in that class of fruit. The whole question of organization must be treated strictly as a business proposition, and he cautioned the growers against ever shipping any fruit of which they would be ashamed to acknowledge as their own. He advised the growers of the province to get in touch with the associations in the south and profit by the experience of the latter.

Successful Work.

Mr. Johnston in thanking the mayor pointed out what had been done to further the idea of organization and co-operation. The association has been very successful in the past. The idea of the central association would be to look after the fruit to be shipped out, the local association to handle the immediate market and only be under the supervision of the central body to the extent that the local body would not be permitted to cut prices. He told of the success of organization in Oregon, where the co-operative movement had been introduced with the result that the grower got the top price for his product.

Thomas Brydon gave an interesting address on the topic "Better Fruit and How to Obtain It." He pointed out the necessity of starting right, of selecting proper location as near to the nearest market as possible and dwelt upon the essentials such as good air and soil, drainage, proper soil, exposure from prevailing winds, the proper selection and planting of the trees and dealt with the important matters of spraying and pruning the trees. There was a short discussion on the benefits of the spray and the best methods of using the same.

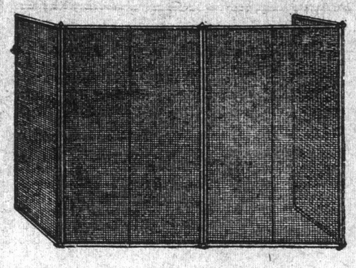
Evening Session

The evening session was occupied with the reading of a paper by Charles F. Sprott, ex-reeve of Burnaby. His subject was "The Highways as They Affect the Fruit Growers." It was followed with a short address by C. W. Munro, M. P. P. for Chilliwack. Mr. Munro spoke in general terms of the growing importance of the industry and the strides which had been made in recent years. He paid a tribute to the climate of British Columbia and spoke of the potentialities of the province in this direction which had hardly been touched.

Hindus Have the Mumps

New Westminster, Jan. 15.—Mumps is prevalent among the Hindus employed by the Great Northern railway at the Cloverdale-Abbotsford construction camps.

Clean Up Sale



Of Fire Screens and Spark Guards

24-Inch Spark Guards, $1.50, reduced to.....$1.00
30-Inch Spark Guards, $1.75, reduced to.....$1.25
24-Inch (English blocks, woven wire) Spark Guards, $2.50, reduced to.....$1.75
30-Inch (English blocks, woven wire) Spark Guards, $3.00, reduced to.....$2.00
24-Inch Folding Brass Fire Screens, $4.00, reduced to.....$2.75
30-Inch Folding Brass Fire Screens, $5.00, reduced to.....$3.50
NURSERY GUARDS, 3 sizes, now....$2.25, $2.50 and $3.00

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AWARDED CONTRACT ON G. T. PACIFIC

Foley Firm to Build West From Edmonton—Men After Coast Contracts

Vancouver, Jan. 15.—Messrs. Foley Bros., Larson and Stewart have just been awarded a contract for the construction of one hundred and twenty miles of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway west from Edmonton. The contractors will start work early in the season.

Besides this firm, McArthur Bros., of Winnipeg, and other companies of railway builders are sending representatives west to figure on the construction of the Pacific coast end of the line. One of the McArthurs arrived here yesterday, and will leave for the north before the end of the week.

J. W. Stewart, a vice-president in Foley Bros. is also expected in Vancouver before the end of the month.

DIFFERED IN OPINION

Dr. Fagan and Lady Members of Anti-Tuberculosis Society Fail to Agree

Vancouver, Jan. 15.—A lively row occurred this afternoon at the annual meeting of the Anti-Tuberculosis Society. Dr. Fagan, provincial health officer, dictated too much, in the opinion of the women, who requested him to retire. He did so, but first asked that Mrs. H. G. Ross be not re-elected president, and declared that all the society had done in two years was to collect nine dollars. After Dr. Fagan had retired, Mrs. Ross was re-elected president.

Nelson and Rossland Mayors

Nelson, Jan. 15.—S. S. Taylor, K. C., was elected mayor by acclamation. There will be a contest in both wards for aldermen. In Rossland P. R. McDonald was re-elected mayor by acclamation. In the east ward there are three aldermanic candidates and in the west ward five.

Births, Marriages, Deaths

BORN.

WINTER—On January 11, 1908, at Hawthornedene, Pemberton Road, the wife of C B. Winter, of Rossland, of a son.

MONG KOW—On Wednesday, the 15th day of January, at No. 640 Fisguard Street, Victoria, B.C., to Mr. and Mrs. Lee Mong Kow, a daughter. Hong Kong and Canton papers please copy.

MARRIED.

CLARK-SIMPSON—On December 31, by Rev. Father Collins, Victoria West, A. F. Clark to Miss M. G. Simpson.

BUSHBY-BRAE—On January 14, at St. Paul's Church, Esquimalt, by Rev. H. St. John Payne, Geo. Gordon Bushby, only son of late Arthur T. Bushby and grandson of late Sir James Douglas, to Violet Carlotta only daughter of late James Allan Brae, of Calgary, Alta., granddaughter of late Mr. Justice Brae, of Jeffore, India.

DIED.

BEARD—On November 25, 1907, at Slocan City, B. C., by an accident, Fred G. Beard, late of Saturna Island, B. C., aged 22 years.

HOLLINGS—At Cobble Hill, B. C., on Wednesday, January 8, 1908, Thomas William Hollings, youngest son of H. S. and Sharlott Hollings. Deceased was born in London, Ont., 31 years ago.

DEVEREUX—At St. Joseph's hospital on the 10th inst., William Walter Essex Devereux, C. E., aged 42 years, eldest son of the late Capt. John Devereux, native of Porto Rico, West Indies.

McLEOD—At 24 Simcoe street, on the 9th inst, Alexim, beloved wife of Angus McLeod, aged 69 years, and a native of St. Ann, N. S.

CUPPAGE—On Thursday, January 9, 1908, the wife of George Cuppage, Esq., of Clare Hall, Co. Dublin, Ireland.

COWPER—In this city on the 11th inst., at St. Joseph's hospital, William Henry Cowper, aged 47 years; a native of Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, England.

WEBB—At St. Joseph's Hospital, on the 12th inst., George Webb, aged 75 years, a native of Banffshire, Scotland, but lately of Esquimalt Road.

GRAHAM—In this city on the 13th instant, at the residence, 441 Simcoe street, John Graham, aged 81 years; a native of Perth, Scotland.