

urgent needs and requirements, on the strength of which I have prepared and submitted to the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, a scheme for the easier and more beneficial development of Fruit Culture, especially in those districts where the fruit raiser, in most instances a pre-emptor, at this early stage of his strenuous efforts, is severely handicapped by the stringent land sale conditions and the delay occasioned through the unavoidable clearing of the necessarily required ground.

The honorable gentleman in charge of our Lands has at once, in his ever ready manner, taken up the suggestions laid before him, and, if unforeseen obstacles do not present themselves, the present Session of the House will witness the introduction of such Amendments to the Agricultural Act, as will enable fruit growing pre-emptors to absent themselves from their lands during the developing period of their fruit trees &c., under conditions advantageous to both the settlers and the Government.

I trust that the new Council of the Vancouver Board of Trade will continue to render assistance to the new institution, which, to a certain extent, may be said to have sprung from it, and whose aims, although apparently running in other grooves, yet have the same object in view; viz.—the future prosperity of our Province.

THE WORK DONE REVIEWED.

I will now in brief recapitulate what has been done by this Board during the elapsed twelve months and what still remains to be completed and looked after.

A grateful feeling ought to permeate us for the successful acquisition of some very important matters at issue, and if a good deal has still been left uncompleted, we have only to continue putting our shoulders to the wheel and success will not be far distant.

The Mechanics Lien Act was passed by the Legislative Assembly.

School accommodation has been improved.

The North Arm Bridge is under Contract.

A Savings Bank has been established.

A Mail Service to the North Arm has been started.

Post Office Letter Boxes have been fixed up in prominent parts of the City.

I have no doubt, but what some of the following items will be satisfactorily dealt with by the Dominion and Provincial Legislatures, now in Session, as great strain has been brought to bear on these Legislative Bodies, to effect a speedy settling of the all important questions of:

Appointment of a Resident Judge.

Appointment of an Immigration Agent.

Erection of Immigration Sheds.

Erection of a Post Office and public buildings.

Cession of the False Creek Foreshore.

An interinsular Mail Subsidy.

Marine Hospital and Quarantine Station.

Land Registry Office.

Fortification of Burrard Inlet.