

Pleasure Trips

Pleasure trips are provided both by sea and by land. The B. C. Electric Railway ran a "sight-seeing" car. Four-in-hand tally-ho and magnificent automobile sight-seeing cars make frequent trips around the city and Stanley Park. The city is well supplied with first-class hotels, cafes and boarding-houses. Tourists will be well rewarded by making plans to spend a long holiday at Vancouver's famous resorts. See that your tickets read via Vancouver.

The Fruit Industry of British Columbia

Maxwell Smith, Dominion Fruit Inspector,
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Although it is only sixteen years since the first full carload of fruit was shipped out of British Columbia, progress has been fairly rapid and people are now beginning to realize something of its possibilities as a fruit-growing province. In the season of 1904, the fruit crop of British Columbia was valued at \$600,000 and the area under cultivation estimated at 14,000 acres.

In 1905 the area under fruit had been increased to 20,000 acres, and the total revenue derived therefrom was nearly \$1,000,000. In the same year something like \$500,000 was expended in the purchase and improvement of fruit lands, and the average price received for grade No. 1 apples from October 1, 1905, to March 31, 1906, was \$1.27 per 40-lb. box, f.o.b. shipping point. The early varieties started out at \$1 net, and during the latter part of February and March as high as \$2 per box was being paid for strictly No. 1 in carload lots. The average prices of other fruits for the season of 1905 were: Pears, \$1.38 per 40-lb. box; prunes and plums, 75c. per 20-lb. box; peaches, \$1.15 per 20-lb. box; strawberries, \$2.30 per 24-basket crate; raspberries \$2.19 per 24-basket crate; blackberries, \$2.40 per 24-basket crate; gooseberries, 5½c. per lb.; crab apples, 2½c. per lb.; tomatoes, 5½c. per lb.; currants, 7c. per lb.; cherries, 9c. per lb.

Outside of the quantities consumed in our own cities the chief market for British Columbia fruit is the prairie provinces; a market which will always demand the best that the fruit-grower can produce and in ever-increasing quantities, so that British Columbia need have no fear, no matter how rapidly the industry develops, of an over-production of good, clean commercial varieties. The province is most favorably situated, in being contiguous to the great plains of the middle west, where fruit-growing on a commercial basis is not likely ever to be a success. That territory is sure to increase rapidly in population and the consumption of fruit will be enormous. It is a curious fact that the average family on the prairies consumes more fruit than do those of British Columbia, and it is quite natural, also, to expect that as the farmers of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba succeed, within a comparatively few years, in laying by sufficient to keep them in comfort for the rest of their lives, they should look to British Columbia, with its congenial climate, magnificent scenery and tremendous, unexplored and undeveloped natural resources, as a place in which to spend their declining years.