INTERIM REPORT OF THE COMMISSION

Fishery Experts Lay Their Recommendations Before Government----Commissioner Brown Strongly Dissents From Findings.

Ottawa, Nov. 24.—The interim report of the British Columbia fishery commission which, as readers of the Times are aware, was appointed by the federal government to inquire into the conditions of the fishing industry of British Columbia, contains recommendations of the utmost importance. The circumstances leading to the appointment of the commission, the proceedings at the numerous meetings, and the conferences with the special commission of the state of Washington, are, doubtless, fairly fresh in the public mind, and need not be again traversed.

The report was not unanimous, Mr. Commissioner Brown presenting a minority finding. The recommendations are exhaustive, and will be followed with the deepest interest by those interested in the preservation of one of the greatest provincial assets.

In the first place the commissioner expressed the opinion that in the Fraser river and the adjacent area, outside where sockeye fishing is carried on, no salmon gill-net sh[illegible] sixty meshes in depth. Th[illegible] maximum limit in the dep[illegible] forced universally in [illegible] would prevent abuses and also facilitate the ascent of increased numbers of salmon.

The commission in the second recommendation favors the limitation of the length of salmon gill-nets to 150 fathoms, formerly the net generally used in the sockeye fishery. For some years, however, nets double that length have been permitted outside the mouth of the Fraser river.

The commission does not recommend the suggested alteration of the salmon fishing limit at Mission Bridge on the Fraser river instead, it is recommended that the two following conditions be enforced in that portion of the Fraser river waters between the Mission and New Westminster bridges:

(a.) Gill-nets privileges for sockeye fishing above New Westminster bridge to be rigidly confined to British subjects actually residing on either side of the river between Mission bridge and New Westminster bridge and the words "license valid between New Westminster bridge and Mission bridge" shall be conspicuously stamped across the face of each such license.

(b.) No such special license shall be issued through the inspector of fisheries or his officers, unless the applicant is known to him or them, to be a British subject, and a bona fide resident above (that is, east of) New Westminster bridge on the Fraser river, for a period of not less than six months prior to the date of the granting of such special license. The report then continues.

Longer Weekly Close Time in Off Years.

In view of the fact that each fourth year is characterized by an abundant run of sockeye salmon, while the three intervening are recognized as "off" years, when the run of sockeyes is small, we recommend that a weekly closed time be enforced in the Fraser river, from its mouth to Mission bridge from 6 a. m., on Saturday until 6 p. m. on the Monday following, from July 1st to August 25th in each of the three intervening years, known as "off" years, or years characterized by diminished, "poor," runs of sockeyes. During the period named and within the limits named this weekly closed season shall be substituted for the weekly closed time at present in force being convinced that such regulation is necessary for the preservation of the sockeye salmon, but the present weekly closed time (6 a. m. Saturday to 6 p. m. Sunday) shall be enforced outside the the mouths of the Fraser river, while in fourth years, the so-called "big" years it shall apply in all specified waters inside and outside the Fraser river.

FISHERIES COMMISSION.

[illegible]ed Patrol Service, Fraser River District.

[illegible]ecommend that in view of the great expansion of the salmon industry, additional patrol officers should be appointed, and that two or more speedy patrol launches be added to the present fishery patrol boats on the Fraser river.

Method of Closing Trap Nets in Close Season.

We recommend that, by special regulation, a small meshed apron, which can be lowered or raised, shall be provided in each salmon trap, so that such salmon trap can be effectively closed, and the entrance of salmon wholly prevented during the weekly, or other, close time. The Washington special fishery commission concur in this, and are recommending a concurrent regulation of the same character in the state of Washington.

Establish a Large Minimum Fine For Trap Violations.

We recommend that a minimum fine of $250 be specified for violation of the salmon trap regulation in British Columbia, thus making our law uniform with that which it is intended to establish and enforce in the state of Washington. In addition to the foregoing recommendations, we, as a commission, concurred in certain other recommendations to which the Washington special fishery commission gave their adhesion. These recommendations, from an international point of view are most important, and we regard them as essential to an effective conjoint scheme of sockeye conservation in the contiguous waters of British Columbia and the state of Washington, with the exception of the clause numbered "V," which is identical with the seventh recommendation in this report.

Suggestion re Washington State Waters.

(1.) We are of opinion and fully agree with the recommendations of the year is recognized as a "big" year, Washington special fishery commission that the regulation contained in the Washington state fishery laws, prohibiting a trap owner from holding a salmon trap site unless a trap is erected and operated thereon, be amended so that a trap site granted to a trap owner be held by such trap owner provided that a trap-net be built or operated thereon for at least one season in four; provided also, that an increased fee or rental be required to be paid in those years, in which the trap is not operated on the site held.

(2.) We are of the opinion that to ensure the effective enforcement of the law, and to safeguard salmon trap-owners against vexatious legal proceedings, the trial of cases of violation of the trap regulations in the state of Washington should be placed in the hands of the Superior court of that state.

(3.) We are of the opinion that a close season for sockeye salmon should be enforced in the state of Washington from August 20th to September 10th, both days inclusive. This would afford necessary additional protection to the late schools of sockeyes, and would ensure uniformity in the closing of the sockeye traps along the shores of the state of Washington.

(4.) We are of opinion, and strongly stated this view at the international conference on September 19th, that the state of Washington legislature should be urged to make a distinct and adequate appropriation for the proper enforcement of the laws framed for the protection and preservation of the salmon supply in the waters of the state.

The [illegible]er states that at the conclusio[illegible]e international conference in V[illegible]couver on September 19th the British Columbia commissioners were assured by the members of the Washington special fishery commission that the foregoing five recommendations would be included in their report to be made at an early date to the state government at Olympia.

The report is signed by E. E. Prince, chairman of the commission, C. Sweeny, Geo. W. Taylor, Richard Hall and J. P. Babcock.

Commissioner Brown Dissents.

The minority commissioner, J. C. Brown, enters a strong protest against the recommendation to make the close time on the river twenty-four hours longer than on outside waters. His chief objections he defined as follows:

(1.) It would subordinate the right of our fishermen to the profit and advantage of the Puget Sound fishing interests to an extent which the latter neither asked for, nor expected, and in return for which we would receive nothing.

(2.) It would be a most unjust discrimination in favor of the Japanese as against white fishermen, and would make it unprofitable for most of the latter, who are settled along the riverside, to continue in the business.

(3.) Its value as a measure of protection (if it were necessary, which it is not) would be doubled by reversing it, making the longer close time outside the river.

(4.) It was brought before the commission in executive session at almost the last possible moment. There was no opportunity to take evidence with regard to it.

The minority commissioner then proceeds to elaborate these points by reference to the evidence.

MANY PERSONS POISONED BY EATING CREAM PUFFS

Buffalo, N. Y., Nov. 24.—Between fifty and a hundred people living in various sections of Buffalo were poisoned by eating cream puffs yesterday and Thursday.

According to reports this morning none will die, although a number are still very ill.

The police and the health department are working on the case to place the responsibility for the sale of the cream puffs. It is supposed they contained formaldehyde or that the poisoning was from ptomaine in the filling of the puffs. It has not yet been decided if any arrests will be made.

THE HAMILTON STRIKE.

Riot Followed Attempt of Street Railway Company to Operate Cars Last Night.

Hamilton, Ont., Nov. 23.—The street railway company undertook to operate cars for the first time to-night and the expected riot followed. A large crowd gathered at King and James streets, the cars were stoned and the windows of the railway station on James street were also smashed. Then the crowd broke all the windows in the departmental store of Stanley Mills. About this time the report spread that soldiers were coming from Toronto and the crowd dispersed.

ELECTRIC CARS COLLIDE.

One Woman Instantly Killed—Sixteen Other Persons Injured.

Detroit, Mich., Nov. 24.—One woman was killed and sixteen other persons were injured early to-day when an electric freight car crashed into the rear end of a suburban electric car near Birmingham, eighteen miles from this city, on the Pontiac division of the Detroit United railway.

The passenger car was a theatre car, bound out to Pontiac from Detroit, and was well filled. It had stopped at the foot of a steep grade in front of the power house, when, without warning, the freight bound from Detroit appeared over the crest of the grade and dropped down the three hundred feet incline at a terrific speed. It struck the standing passenger car with such force that it telescoped the car for two-thirds of its length. Miss Harriet Harmer, of Pontiac, was instantly killed.

BOMB OUTRAGE.

Another Attempt to Kill Chief of Secret Police of the Sultan's Palace.

Constantinople, Nov. 24.—It became known to-day that the explosion of a bomb in the Pera quarter of Constantinople on November 22nd was a second attempt to blow up Fehmi Pasha, chief of the secret police of the palace. The bomb exploded near his carriage while Fehmi Pasha was driving through the main street of the Pera quarter. Two spectators were injured.

The police claim that they have arrested the man who threw the bomb, and say he is an Armenian.

ENGLISH SOAP COMBINE HAS BEEN ABANDONED

Liverpool, Nov. 24.—The working arrangement, entered into on October 1st, between the leading soap manufacturers of the United Kingdom, popularly known as the "Soaperset," was terminated here yesterday on the ground that the combine had been received with great disfavor by the trade and public.

ON HUNTING TRIP.

King George and King Victor Spent Part of Day in Royal Preserves.

Rome, Nov. 24.—King George of Greece and King Victor Emmanuel, accompanied by their suites, were driven in automobiles to-day to Castle Porziano, the royal preserves situated in the beautiful woods near Ostea, which extend to the Mediterranean. After taking part in a very successful wild boar hunt the two kings lunched at the royal hunting lodge and then returned to Rome.

SLAIN BY PLAYMATE.

Hoosiac Falls, N.Y., Nov. 23.—Clifford Mason, 23 years old, was today shot and instantly killed by the accidental discharge of a gun in the hands of John Sheffer, a playmate, who did not know the gun was loaded.

THE QUESTION OF NEW AMBASSADOR

OCCUPIES ATTENTION OF LONDON PAPERS

The Outlook Does Not Favor Selection of James Bryce as Sir M. Durand's Successor.

London, Nov. 24.—Perhaps never before in the history of British journalism has American topics and news taken up so much space as at present. Just now the leading subject of discussion in the English papers is the selection of a successor to Sir Mortimer Durand as British ambassador at Washington, which is brought in under some form or other in nearly all the comment of imperial affairs, many editorial writers agreeing with Sir Mortimer, that Washington "is the most important diplomatic post in the world."

One of the principal weekly reviews, the Outlook, makes the subject the leading feature of its issue, and gives up more than a page to it.

The Outlook says: "The British embassy at Washington has lost completely the political and social ascendency it enjoyed under Lord Pauncefote. The blame for this is not Sir Mortimer's, who commands universal respect, but he was transplanted from a sphere which he filled with great distinction to an environment where it was practically impossible for a diplomat of his traditions to become acclimatized. There has been no misunderstanding between the United States and Great Britain, but there has been some cessation of a complete understanding. What is now needed is a man who is as little like a professional diplomat as can be imagined, and resembling as nearly as possible American representatives such as Lowell, Choate and Reid, who have been the most effective ambassadors in the world because there has been no atmosphere of formalism or convention about them."

Continuing, the Outlook says the place formerly occupied by the British ambassador in Washington has been taken advantage of by Baron Speck Von Sternberg, "who combines every advantage for the post." The German ambassador is almost an Englishman. He was born in Yorkshire and might possibly have become a British subject at one time, and he swings our language as diplomatically as ourselves. His success has been as brilliant as the failure of the theatrical diplomat, like Count Cassini, of Prussia, has been dismal. The Outlook praises M. Jessurand, the French representative at Washington, whom it describes as a "more fascinating critic and historian of English letters than any other writer now living."

While lauding James Bryce's accomplishments the paper says it believes his selection to fill the Washington post would be nothing less than a disaster at the present phase of Anglo-American relations, and calls for "a very unconventional appointment, in utter disregard of precedent."

The paper also says: "It would be an astonishing proof of national weakness if we are unable to find one ambassador at least able to make himself as popular with the Americans as all American ambassadors are with us."

Incidentally the Outlook declares that President Roosevelt's personality is a dominating influence upon the American nation, and that unit will remain dominant even if he is not chosen for a third term.

CHINESE ANTI-OPIUM REGULATIONS

EXPECTED TO HAVE FAR REACHING RESULTS

Use of the Drug Must Cease in Ten Years—Trying to Stop Export Trade.

New York, Nov. 23.—A dispatch to the Times says that the regulations issued yesterday at Pekin carrying into effect the anti-opium edict are more severe than any regulations ever previously issued in China, and do honor to the enlightened official whose patriotism, supported by the influence of Viceroy Yuan Shi Kai, prompted the issue of the edict. There are eleven regulations. It is provided not only that the cultivation of the poppy but also the use of opium must cease in ten years. No new ground can be placed under cultivation and the ground now under cultivation must be reduced one-tenth annually under penalty of confiscation. All persons using opium must be registered and so must the amount consumed. Only a registered person can buy opium. No one is permitted to begin the use of opium after the issue of the regulations. In regard to the decrease of opium by persons over 60 years old the rules are lenient. Those under 60 must decrease the use of it 20 per cent. anually. If they are still addicted to the drug after 10 years their names will be posted publicly. Shops selling opium are to be closed gradually and the opium dens are to be closed within six months. The officials must distribute to persons addicted to the use of opium prescriptions or medicines counteracting its use, gratuitously or at cost. Anti-opium societies must be established and the existing societies must be encouraged. The officials must set the example. Officials over 60 years old whose cravings are great must be treated leniently. All big officials under 60 years of age, no matter how great their cravings, must abandon the use of opium within six months. If they are unable to discontiuue they can retain their rank but must retire from office. Those who falsely pretend to abandon the habit and continue it secretly will be deprived of both rank and office. To all teachers, scholars, soldiers and sailors, throughout all ranks, three months will be allowed in which entirely to abandon the habit.

Furthermore, the Eai Wu Pu is commanded to approach the British, French, Dutch and Persian ministers with a view to terminating the export of opium within ten years.

The importation of morphia and hypodermic syringss is prohibited. Clauses of the British and American treaties dealing with opium are now brought into effect.

The time is well chosen for the issue of the regulations. The press unanimously condemns the opium habit and speaks contemptuously of officials addicted to it. A healthy spirit is abroad, opium has been driven out of foreign drilled armies and can be expelled from other government departments. There is no question that the regulations will be strictly enforced in the metropolitan provinces whose viceroy is Yuan Shi Kai.

THREATS OF MASSACRE.

Attacks on Jews Probable If They Are Granted Additional Rights.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 24.—The threats of the reactionary party that Jewish massacres will be organized if the rights of the Jews are enlarged are becoming more definite.

The central council of the league of the Russian people, claiming to represent two hundred branches with thirty million members, has issued a declaration disclaiming responsibility for the outrages which may result from the "Just indignation produced by the enlargement of the Jewish rights," and has published the text of two hundred dispatches of protests to the Emperor from local organizations, of which the following is a sample phrase: "It is dangerous further to test the gentleness and patience of the peaceful Russian population which may be forced in its defence against the Jews, to overstep the limits of law and order and resort to violence."

WILL FARM ON EXTENSIVE SCALE

NEW YORK CAPITALISTS INVEST IN SASKATCHEWAN

Purchase Four Thousand Acres of Land —Boy Accidentally Shot While Hunting Chickens.

Regina, Sask., Nov. 24.—The Grain Growers' Incorporated, a concern composed of New York capitalists, with a capital of $500,000, is stated to have bought 400 acres of wild lands at Vonta at $11.50 per acre. It is the intention of the company to farm on a large scale and several steam plough gangs will be put to work next spring. It is also reported that the company will build and operate a string of elevators through the province, but of this no confirmation at present is obtainable.

Accidentally Shot.

Calgary, Nov. 24.—While shooting prairie chickens on the Great Red Deer river the seven-year-old son of T. P. Greentree was accidentally shot in the right lung yesterday.

Clerk's Death.

Edmonton, Alta., May 24.—Geo. Brennan, chief clerk to Supt. Carry, of the Canadian Northern railway, died on Wednesday evening about 9 o'clock at the isolation hospital from the effect of drinking formaldehyde. The body has been removed to the Alberta undertaking parlors on First street, awaiting instructions from Winnipeg, where the family of the deceased live. The circumstances connected with the Brennan's death are tragic.

Proposed Soap Works.

Edmonton, Alta., Nov. 24.—If the hopes of the promoter are realized and Strathcona gives the encouragement that is asked, the town will have, in the course of a few years, the largest and most up-to-date soap works between Toronto and the coast. C. L. Bailey, of Cobourg, Ont., is the gentleman who proposes to build the plant.

JAPS IN MANCHURIA.

Ill Treatment of Chinese Results in Latter Taking Steps to Institute Boycott.

Chefoo, Nov. 23.—The Chinese in Manchuria are preparing to make an attempt to boycott Japanese goods. The movement originated mainly from the ill-treatment which the Chinese have been subjected to by the Japanese and the latter's continued occupation of Chinese property under the pretext of its being a military necessity. Another reason for the movement is the inability of the Chinese merchants to continue their former large business in American and European goods on account of efforts of the Japanese to place obstacles in the way of everything but Japanese commerce in Manchuria. A factor in the impending boycott is the establishment in Manchuria of Japanese cigarettes, soap and other factories which are mainly engaged in imitating European and American products, notably cigarettes.

CARUSO FINED.

New York, Nov. 24.—The ten dollar fine imposed on Enrich Caruso, the famous Italian opera singer, in the Yorkville police court yesterday after he had been declared guilty on a charge of annoying women in Central park was paid to-day. The fine was paid under protest by one of his attorneys, who at the same time reiterated the announcement made yesterday that an appeal would be made.

TWO BIG THINGS IN THE SUNSET PROVINCE

Something About the Lumbering and Agricultural Progress----The Remarkable Advances Made in Past Few Years.

In last Saturday's issue of the Times certain deductions were drawn to render understandable some big actualities in the province of British Columbia. To-day an effort will be made to treat in the same manner other big things—some only as yet partially realized, but all germinating in the womb of the future to come forth, without fail, as population and trade increase.

Prominent among the industries purposely omitted last Saturday is that of manufacturing lumber. This was treated at some length in these columns early in the summer, but even the passage of a few months has brought many new facts to light, shown such remarkable extensions, that in justice to the province, and more particularly for the information of non-residents, another epitome—truly very short, but not uninformative—will now be given.

In 1895 the total amount of lumber cut in this province was 112,884,640 feet; in 1905, a decade later, the total was 473,713,986 feet. Unsupported by official statistics this staggering extension would hardly appear credible, but the figures are found in Bulletin No. 21 (1905 edition) of the provincial bureau of information and the supplement thereto issued recently. A row of nine figures, running up into the hundreds of millions is too vast a thing to contemplate or realize without they are reduced to something like reasonable dimensions. Roughly speaking, this would, placed end to end, reach a distance of 90,000 miles. If divided equally among the people of the province it would mean 2,350 feet each, with 3,713,986 feet left over, enough to construct a four-foot sidewalk from here to Nanaimo and thence to Alberni, covering what will, in the near future, be a favorite road for automobiles. Or, to illustrate further, if this product could be wrought into one gigantic tree, having a diameter of four feet, it would rise up 500 miles from the earth, and enough would still be left to construct a ladder high enough to reach the topmost branches—that is, if anyone had the strength and pertinacity to climb it.

The revenue derived from this industry incidentally illustrates its worth. The yearly license fee west of the Cascades is $140; east of that range $115. A fair average of the lands taken up would be about half in each division. Up to 1st August, 1906, from the beginning of the year, nearly 1,700 of these licenses were issued; by the end of the year the total will reach 2,700. The value this year, at the average rate of rental—$127.50 for license fees alone will be, therefore, $344,250. When the stumpage tax is added to this, for which statistics are not yet available, it will be seen what a great industry that of lumbering is.

An extract from the supplement just mentioned will further emphasize the value of the timber industry:

Following is a list of some of the principal mills established recently:

	Feet.
Fraser River Sawmills, Millside, near New Westminster	250,000
Small & Bucklin Lumber Co., New Westminster	65,000
The J. S. Emerson Lumber Co., Port Moody, 50,000 shingles and	20,000
Vancouver Lumber Co., Vancouver	70,000
Anglo-American Lumber Co., Vancouver	30,000
Sutton Lumber & Trading Co., Mosquito Harbor, Clayoquot	200,000
C. R. McLaughlin Lumber Co., Bon Accord	100,000
Total daily capacity	735,000

In addition to the above, several small mills, mostly supplying local demands, have been, or are being, built at various points in the province, notably in Okanagan, Similkameen, Nicola and Cranbrook districts. Others which were destroyed or damaged by fire are being rebuilt and enlarged, improved and made more modern. One small mill has been built on the northwest coast, and others are projected, in anticipation of the advent of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway, and to supply the local demand, which is steadily increasing through the establishment of new settlements. A large mill is about to be established at Port Harvey, Cracroft Island, with a capacity of over 100,000 feet of lumber and 150,000 shingles per day. The Haslam mill, at Nanaimo, has been enlarged and fitted with new machinery, and the Sidney mill has been reopened and is now in operation.

Coming, secondly, to the fruit industry the expectations of the most sanguine are supported by official authorities. In an interview given to the Times and published on July 21st of the present year, Hon. R. G. Tatlow, minister of finance and agriculture, said:

"Horticulture is rapidly coming to the front. It is becoming one of our most important industries. The great success attained at exhibitions, such as those in London and Winnipeg, will not be ephemeral; it is a sign of solid growth. In 1891 the acerage under fruit was 6,500; ten years later it had only reached 7,000, but advancement has since been phenomenal. A year ago there were 22,000 acres cultivated by orchardists and fruit growers, and I fully believe that, by the end of 1906, there will be 40,000 acres used in this manner.

"In time the growth of local nurseries will take the place of imported stock, but I may mention that already, during the present season, the provincial inspector has examined 1,250,000 trees. At present the growth of nursery stock is small, but next season should see 750,000 local trees placed on the market and the following year 1,500,000. In a few years we will commence to export."

This optimistic expression of opinion is fully supported by actual statistics. In 1902 the total of fruit shipped from British Columbia, by both freight and express, reached 1,956 tons; in 1905 this amount had increased to 4,357 tons. From many points there were large shipments of peaches, strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, nectarines and other species, but the bulk consisted of apples and pears. Enquiry at the leading wholesale fruit dealers here this morning elicited the fact that $40 would be the average price for a ton of apples. Taking this into consideration and the many more valuable fruits shipped it is safe to estimate the average value per ton at $50. Such being the case, the shipments for 1905 were worth about $217,850. But much more than half of the product of British Columbia orchards is consumed locally, so it may safely be said that the province produced at least $500,000 worth of fruit last year.

The story has yet to be told adequately of the rise of British Columbia fruit. Thos. G. Earl, of Lytton, demonstrated as a solitary example for many years the productivity of the interior, but it was not until a short time ago that anyone began to realize that the dry lands of Okanagan, the valleys of the Kootenays, and all the more surprising in the delay, many parts of Vancouver Island were admirably adopted for growing the fruits of the temperate zone to perfection. Even sub-tropical species are now being cultivated in many parts of the southern interior as witness Peachland, a veritable paradise for peaches and the large number of apricots and nectarines already exported. And it must not be forgotten that on the Gorge road, almost within the city limits of Victoria, is an apricot tree, trained to cover two sides of a house that bears amazingly.

Cherries should not be forgotten. Residents of the Royal City know the very riot of blossom that decked the old Pelham gardens in spring, afterwards to be replaced by large bunches of superfine "Whitehearts." But whoever dreamed that Kootenay would outrival New Westminster and the Fraser valley. There is a lively little fight going on now between Nelson and Kaslo as to which is the best fruit district. Within the past ten years it was a fight for mineral supremacy alone; anyone who had mentioned fruit would have been sent to contemplate it from the windows of the New Westminster Insane asylum.

The cattle ranges of the interior plateau, especially in the Okanagan and lower Thompson river valleys are rapidly giving place to fruit farms. One of the pioneers in this line was the Earl of Aberdeen, then Governor-General of Canada, who purchased a large portion of the almost historic Harper estate and, changing the name to Coldstream ranche, demonstrated, for the first time on an extensive scale the horticultural possibilities of the Okanagan valley.

As to actual results obtained from fruit farming in this province the following from the last official bulletin is worthy of careful reading.

"The actual experience of many fruit-gowers is highly satisfactory to them, and a temptation to every man who desires to make money pleasantly to set up in the business. In Okanagan there are instances of $500 to $600 gross profit per acre. At Kelowna 9 tons of pears and 10 tons of prunes per acre are not uncommon. Near Nelson, 14 acres produced 1,000 cases of strawberries and 94 tons of roots, netting the owner $100 per acre. This land was formerly a cedar swamp. At Lytton to-day grapes, averaging 4 pounds to the bunch, were grown in the open. On the Coldstream ranch, near Vernon, 20 acres produced $10,000 worth of Northern Spy apples. At Peachland one acre and a half gave a return of $700 in peaches. Tomatoes to the value of $1,500 per acre were grown on Okanagan lake. A cherry tree at Pentiction produced 800 pounds of fruit. These cases are by no means exceptional or confined to any single district, similar ones could be cited from almost any part of the Province. Apples and pears produce from 8 to 15 tons of fruit per acre, according to variety, and the average price is $26 and $30 per ton respectively. Plums, prunes, cherries and peaches invariably bear largely and the prices are always satisfactory if the fruit is propertly picked and packed.

"Fruit-packing has been brought to a fine art in British Columbia, the methods used being considered perfect by experts, and other countries are following her lead in this most important matter. Careless or dishonest packing is not tolerated, offenders being severely punished."

These special figures refer to other districts, but that surrounding Victoria has produced equally good results.

As to quality British Columbia need fear no competitor. An exhibit from this province won the Royal Horticultural Society's gold medal in 1905, and a few days ago "beat the Scotch" at the Edinburgh exhibition. It is expected that at the London exhibition, which will be held early next month the success of 1905 will be repeated.

The provincial agricultural produce during last year aggregated $6,482,[illegible], according to statistics recently compiled by the department of agriculture. This was an increase of $487,718 over the production of 1904. Of this Vancouver and adjacent islands contributed about one-fifth or $1,214,240; the principal items being: Fruit, $37,440; butter, $230,450; eggs and poultry, $37,500; cattle, $67,500; sheep, $62,500; swine, $37,500; hay, $177,600; oats, $91,500; barley, $70,620; wheat, $69,239; peas, $25,600; potatoes, $63,750; other roots, $155,000.

Regarding future prospects in the district tributary to Victoria the same authority says:

"As a result of investigations recently made by expert viticulturists certain districts tributary to Victoria have been pronounced capable of producing grapes on a large scale. It has also been discovered that the climate is

(Continued on page 5.)