

This is particularly true of the region along the Fraser River between Chilliwack and Hope. Briefly, the region along the Fraser River from Agassiz to the coast is one abundantly supplied with water and now producing large quantities of plums, pears, apples and berries. Some of the interior valleys are eminently adapted to the requirements of the tenderest tree fruits. Peaches are being successfully cultivated here and there, on the bench lands.

The climate of parts of the Okanagan Valley is described by those who have studied it carefully as approaching perfection. At Vernon fruit growers, stimulated by the example of His Excellency, are planting fruit trees extensively. With irrigation the upper plateaux and interior regions are proving wonderfully fertile and productive, and with this life-sustaining agent the possibilities of fruit growing in the province would appear to widen as we advance. The increased interest in mining will in time react favourably upon the fruit interests of the province. With favourable freight rates, should not the fruit growers of British Columbia supply the homes of the rancher and farmer throughout the vast area between the Rocky Mountains in the West, and the Red River in the East, with this flower of commodities? And is he not in a position, at the Western Gateway, if supplied with proper shipping facilities, to give of his plenty to his cousins in Australia during their season of scarcity.

Did time admit, I would like to speak of the canning industry of Canada, the evaporating industry, and the great nursery interests of the Dominion. It might interest you to know that a single canning establishment in Prince Edward county made a shipment last year of canned fruit and vegetables put up in one factory, consisting of a complete train of cars, which steamed away to supply settlers in the Western prairie provinces with the good things of life, concentrated and properly conserved.