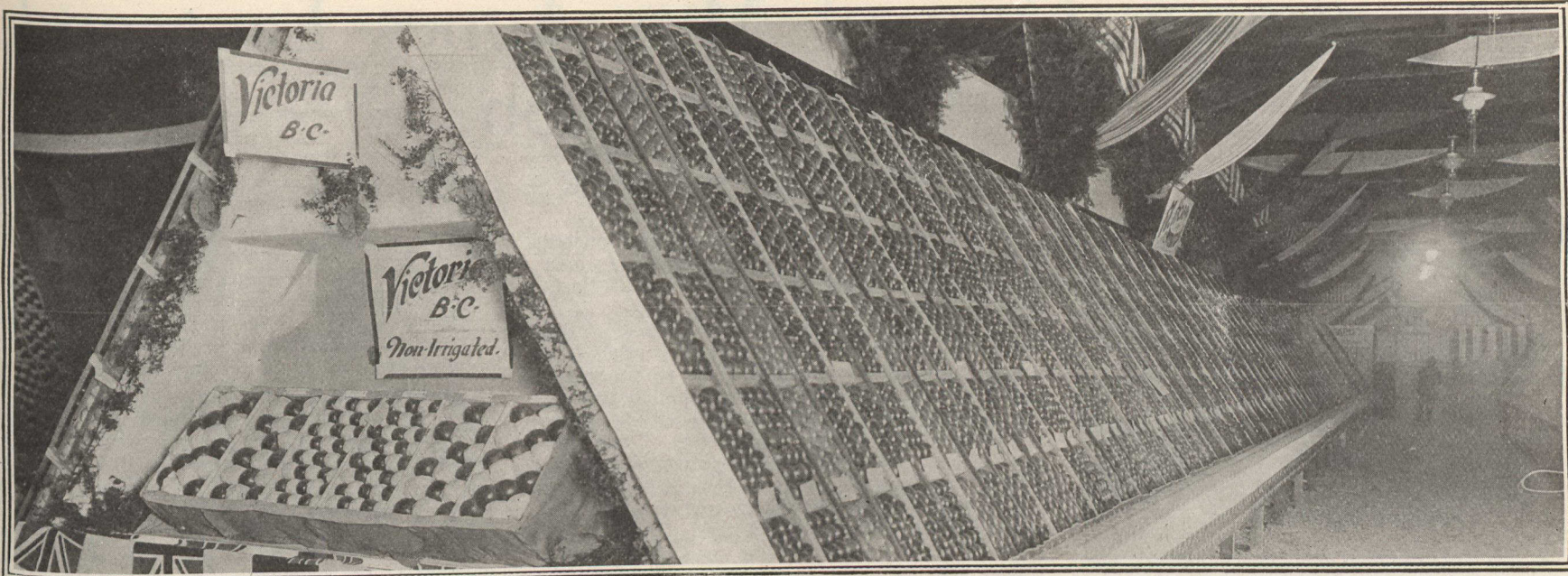




Apples—Carload Lots—Exhibit of Mr. Horan, of Wenatchee, Washington, which won the first prize of \$1000 at National Apple Show, Spokane.



Best Six Boxes from Foreign Countries. The six boxes on the left were from Kelowna and they won first prize of \$100 and Cultivato



Display of Fresh Fruit, second prize of \$100, won by Kelowna District, Okanagan Valley

British Columbia and the National Apple Show

By EDGAR W. DYNES

DURING the last twenty years of the nineteenth century, British Columbia was receiving comparatively few immigrants. Her mining and lumbering industries required large capital to develop and her valley lands remained unattractive because of the necessary expense and labour involved in clearing. The new settler seemed to prefer a home on the prairie where land was ready for the plough.

But with the development of the fruit lands of British Columbia a great change has taken place. Settlers are pouring into Canada's Pacific province with every train. The valley lands, so long deserted, are being eagerly taken up. Smiling orchards are dotted here and there, for in the interim the pioneers have proved what could be done.

They have proved that a family can make a living on ten acres of good orchard land where improved methods of cultivation are adopted. The returns in some instances have almost staggered the most enthusiastic, but an average return of two hundred dollars an acre and upward is considered a very low estimate. Returns of \$500 an acre are not uncommon while some growers report as much as \$1,000 and \$1,200 from a single acre in one season's crop.

To quote figures let me say that in 1901, there were in the province of British Columbia seven thousand four hundred and thirty acres in fruit with a total of six hundred and fifty thousand fruit trees. At present the exact figures are difficult to obtain—on account of the steady increase during the past year—but the present acreage is around the hundred thousand mark with a total of about six million trees. Production has been increasing correspondingly from year to year, and large quantities of the choicest fruit are being exported, yet at the same time thousands of dollars worth of fruit each year is imported from the state of Washington to supply the home market.

British Columbia fruit has won high honours at numerous fairs and expositions, both at home and abroad for years, but never did she achieve so much success along this line as at the National Apple Show held recently, in Spokane, Wash. This show, although a new venture was the greatest exclusive apple show ever held in the world. A large temporary addition was built to the State Armoury to house the exhibits and all available space was filled to its capacity. There were exhibits from all parts of the United States but Canada was represented by British Columbia, only. England, Germany, Japan and Norway had entered exhibits but owing to delay in transportation none of them arrived in time.

It was a daring thing to attempt—this great Apple Show—but with characteristic Western energy and enthusiasm, the citizens of Spokane banded themselves together and raised a prize list of thirty-five thousand dollars. The show has been such a success that in all probability it will be continued as an annual affair.

Washington, has for years been known as the greatest apple growing state in the union, in point of quality. So that, it was natural that she should carry off the most prizes. She did, but right behind her was British Columbia carrying off more prizes than any other state than the one named. All told over five thousand dollars was won by British Columbia growers, besides a number of prizes in the shape of orchard tools and also a silver cup.

The largest individual winning was made by Mr. F. R. F. DeHart of Kelowna, who won almost forty-four hundred dollars in prizes. His most important winning, although not the largest prize, was for the best individual display, Wenatchee, Washington's crack apple district having to take second place. The prize in this contest was five hundred dollars. The exhibit consisted of two boxes, two baskets, two barrels and two jars of apples. Other firsts won by Mr. DeHart were, first

for the best ten boxes of Jonathans, the prize being an irrigated tract of fruit land near Spokane, valued at \$2,000; first for the best ten boxes of Northern Spies, the prize being another irrigated tract valued at \$1,250; first for the best box pack; first for the best barrel pack; seven firsts in the plate exhibits out of eight entries and also a silver cup awarded to the winner of the most first prizes. In addition the Kelowna district exhibit with Mr. DeHart and Mr. J. Gibb in charge, captured the second prize for the best district display, Wenatchee winning first by three points. The count stood 315 to 312. Mr. DeHart had in all forty-three boxes on exhibit, so it can be seen that he made each box count.

In the best box pack exhibit all three prizes went to British Columbians, Mr. DeHart coming first, Mrs. J. A. Smith of Victoria, second, and Herbert W. Collins of Grand Forks, third.

For the best individual plate exhibit of apples grown by a woman the prize of fifty dollars' worth of Burbank's new crimson rhubarb, was won by Mrs. E. Lowe of Keremeos, B.C. Kaslo won a first and second for her famous Gravensteins, while Creston and Nelson each won seven or eight prizes in the plate exhibits.

The \$1,000 prize for the best carload was won by Mr. M. Horan of Wenatchee, with a carload of some of the best commercial varieties consisting of Delicious, Jonathan, Arkansas, Black, Winesap, Yellow Newton, Esopus, Spitzenberg, Rome Beauty, Winter Banana and Grimes Golden. The second prize of \$500 went to Mr. H. M. Gilbert, of Yakima, President of the State of Washington Horticultural Association, with a straight car of Winesaps. There were six hundred and thirty boxes in the car, all four tier apples and one hundred and twelve apples to the box. With the old barrel pack it would be quite a problem to tell how many apples there were in a carload but in this instance it is a simple prob-

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