FRUIT GROWERS END SESSION

Will Urge Standardization Of Boxes Upon Dominion Fruit Convention—Various Matters Under Discussion

The British Columbia Fruit Growers' Association will recommend the following as the standard sizes of fruit boxes to the Dominion fruit conference in Ottawa next December:

Apple boxes 20 by 11 by 10 inches.

Pear boxes 18 1-4 by 11 by 8 1-2 inches.

Four basket plum crates, 15 3-4 by 15 3-4 by 4 1-4 inches.

Peach boxes, 18 1-4 by 11 3-4 by 4 1-2 inches.

Crabapple boxes, 18 1-4 by 11 by 8 1-4 inches.

The standarization of all boxes was held to be in the best interests of the fruit growers, and also of the box manufacturers, and the statement was made that this province is greatly in advance of the states of Washington and Oregon in this regard.

The attitude of the fruit growers of the province on the question of reciprocity with the United States was emphatically expressed during the afternoon session by the following resolution which carried unanimously:

"Whereas the farmers of the North West are asking that the duty on American fruit be reduced, and whereas the fruit industry of British Columbia is attaining very large proportions and would suffer very severely in such case, be it therefore resolved that this representative meeting of British Columbia fruit growrs wish it placed on record that they are absolutely against any reduction of the duties, and that the duty on fruit brought into Canada be raised to equal the duty imposed by the United States on fruit going from Canada to the United States. Be it further resolved that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Dominion and provincial governments and to the members of both houses, and that all affiliated associations be notified of this action."

The resolution followed on a strong attack made on the idea of recoprocity by the Hon. Price Ellison, who during the afternoon addressed the growers. "I hope," he said, "that this reciprocity arrangement will never take place. If it does we shall have to go out of the business of fruit-growing, and indeed out of many other businesses. We in Canada have only a population of 8,000,000. In the United States there are 105,000,000 people. The surplus production of that country would be dumped on us. Our markets would be flooded. Our industries crowded out. Our prosperity gone. Who is it that is agitating for reciprocity? Just a handful of Manitoba farmers. They want to get their agricultural implements cheap, but in their desire they lose sight of the fact that the industries, which are the life and the soul of the country, would be hampered, their vitality eaten into, and in many cases their very existence destroyed by the flood of cheap products, the result of overproduction, which would come in here from the United States. This question is not one of politics, but one which affects Canada as a whole and British Columbia in particular. Don't let us make British Columbia a dumping ground for American goods. What is required in our trade arrangements is a preferential tariff with the Mother Country, so that we shall continue to stand side by side with her and fight her battles as in the past. There is no sentiment in the idea of fighting reciprocity. It is purely a business agitation. We are responsible for what is going on; if we don't make our voices heard while there is yet time we will then be responsible for what happens. We ought to see that we preserve, not only for ourselves, but for our children, that essential policy which is the making of Canada today. That is the policy of protection. If the United States had been a free trade nation would she have the population she has today? No. Her industries would be stifled, or still-born, and she would be the dumping ground of every other country in the world."

Old Country Shows.

Mr. Ellison told his audience of the wonderful successes which British Columbia fruit had gained in the Mother Land. He had been present at a number of the exhibitions and from all quarters had heard the highest praise. This result was due to the men whom he was addressing, who represented the industry in the province. The British Columbia fruit products, he said, could not be beaten in any part of the world. The government exhibits last autumn had been on a larger scale than ever before and the results would be impossible to estimate them. He alluded to the fact that the best displayers and decorators had been engaged to look after the exhibits in the Old Land, and pointing a moral from the successes achieved, he said that the principal demand was for the yellow varieties of apples. The government had been successful in selling over 300 boxes of the fruit shown, at prices ranging from a guinea to twenty-five shillings per box. It was possible to obtain prices in the Old Land for the fruit products of the province which would warrant the growers raising the very best kind of fruit. But there should be regulated prices for fruit. The growers should see that the jobbers and middlemen did not get all the profit. Mr. Hayward—the member for Cowichan—had just told him that last summer it didn't pay to raise fruit in the Duncan district. That was a state of affairs which shouldn't exist. He personally was unable to see why the fruit growers couldn't obtain what their fruit was worth.

Mr. Ellison pointed out that he had gone into a fruiterer's in Regent street where he saw British Columbia winter bananas selling at a shilling apiece. He had bought none of them. He could not afford it at the price. In the same shop was a box of British Columbia apples ticketed at four shillings and sixpence. With prices such as those someone must be making a large profit. The fruit growers should see where the profit went. They should have a corner in the fruit of their own territory.

Showing the qualities of the apples sent to London Mr. Ellison pointed out that they had arrived in perfect condition. They had travelled 6,000 miles and if they hadn't had good keeping qualities they would have gone rotten before arriving at their destination. He was certain that British Columbia was going to be a great apple producing country if only the growers took care that the United States did not beat them. There was no danger of having the market in England overrun. To instance this Mr. Ellison pointed out that one London firm just before he left was offering 100,000 boxes of yellow pippins in one consignment. What a pity it was that Canada could not get the entire apple market in Great Britain. The fruit growers should raise their voices for everything which would bring about trade in this manner with the Old Land. Personally he knew that the fruit growers required all the encouragement they could get. As minister of agriculture he personally promised that he would meet them in every way possible and help to advance the interest of the industry in the province.

Mr. Ellison's speech was listened to with the keenest attention and came in for considerable applause, a cordial vote of thanks for his courtesy in speaking being tendered him at its conclusion.

Labor For Fruit Growers.

A matter of hardly less interest than the foregoing came up in a discussion which arose on the question of labor for fruit growers. The secretary, R. M. Winslow, made a statement of how this matter stood at present. He said that a committee had been appointed to wait on the provincial government on the necessity for action regarding labor and the appointment of a labor bureau. Owing to the absence in the east of Mr. R. H. Agur, the chairman of the committee, it had not yet waited on the government, so there was nothing to report as to its actions. Conditions in the fruit industry had reached such a pitch that either values would have to go up, or else the cost of production would have to come down. In his capacity of secretary he had been instructed to find out, if possible, the number of laborers wanted by the fruit growers in the province. He had circularized them all, or as many as he could get in touch with, and up to date he had received data which showed that there was a demand for nearly 1,300 laborers. These men could be employed at current wages during the coming season, and over half of them could be employed for eight months of the season. Mr. Palmer had stated on a former occasion that this labor situation in the province was one that would right itself, but in his opinion it was a matter in which the fruit growers should take some definite action towards remedying. In the Hood River district on the American side the cost of production, shipping, etc., was 41 1-2 cents a box, while in British Columbia the duty and the freight rates very seldom equalized the cost of production.

In response to a question Mr. Winslow stated that no effort had been made to obtain the 1,300 men wanted.

One speaker spoke strongly against the employment of Oriental labor, suggesting that every effort possible should be put forth to make the fruit industry in the province a white one. He further suggested that the government should be induced to assist the passage of emigrants from the Old Country, and that a suitable tract of country should be set aside, divided into five-acre blocks, on which families of these emigrants could be located. By these blocks of land it would be possible for them to produce enough to keep them when the fruit season was not in progress.

Further instances of the lack of labor in the province were furnished by Mr. J. C. Metcalfe, who pointed out that he personally had found it impossible to obtain men to clear land on the lower mainland.

Labor Bureau.

Mr. W. E. Scott strongly upheld the idea of the establishment of a labor bureau. He pointed out that last summer a couple of hundred men seeking work had come to the department of agriculture in the government buildings. He knew that there was a shortage of labor in many parts of the province, but he had no specific information as to where it existed, and consequently could not direct those who inquired. With a labor bureau it would be possible to have on hand data regarding the needs of different districts and these could be served accordingly.

Secretary Winslow was again heard in pointing out that the province had done very little in its publicity literature towards attracting the men who wanted to work. Men with capital were always being sought and thus the population of the province was becoming one-sided. There had been a steady growth in the feeling that British Columbia must be kept a white province. Was this being done? He had recently been on a visit to the mainland and he had found that the Mission and Hatzic districts exported last year in rhubarb and fruit to the amount of $110,000. Of this amount some $35,000 had been spent in the picking of the products, and of this sum over eighty-five per cent. had gone to Orientals. The money earned by Orientals was not spent in the country. A small proportion of it was of course spent here, but even that portion found its way into the pockets of other Orientals. So it could easily be seen that this question of labor was a big one from an economic standpoint. Whatever was decided it should be seen that the future of British Columbia should be in the hands of the white man.

Suggestions innumerable followed on the remarks of the above speakers. One was that the province should put forward its publicity efforts to ensure both the men with money and the men who would earn it. Yet another drew attention to the location of the British Columbia Agent General's office in London. Where perhaps ten people would see this office in Finsbury square thousands would see it if it were located in the Strand. Efforts should be made to have the office located in that portion of London where the traffic was greatest, and this means would be productive of much greater success in the way of attracting attention to British Columbia. There were thousands of people in England who had never heard of British Columbia as a field of emigration. The province did not advertise enough for the class of men who were really wanted—that was the laboring class. Yet another suggestion was that the province should embark on a vigorous immigration policy following on the lines of the Federal immigration department. In this connection it was pointed out that British Columbia had no part in the publicity propoganda of the Dominion government.

Mr. Maxwell Smith pointed out that both as a province and as a nation a great mistake would be made if the class of immigration would not make a good type of citizenship. The province did not want a class of immigrants who would be willing to always be a servile class. What was wanted was men with aspirations, men who believed that some day they could become their own masters and cease to work for others. The proposal that land should be set aside for immigrants was a good one. Under existing conditions there was no available information as to where the land for sale by the province could be obtained.

Finally a resolution was passed unanimously asking the provincial government to promote immigration from the British Isles and with this end in view to establish a bureau of labor, and set aside receiving farms for the training of such immigrants. It further recommended that assisted passages should be advanced by the provincial government.

Packing Schools.

Other resolutions of interest passed before the convention concluded its labors. One recommended that the packing schools to be established by the provincial government should be supplied to all districts which made application. Another asked the provincial government to continue its investigations into, and reports from foreign markets, with special reference to the markets in Idaho, Washington and Oregon. Yet a third resolution tendered a heary vote of thanks to Mr. Maxwell Smith for his efforts in organizing the best apple show (the National Apple Show, at Vancouver) that the world had ever seen.

In replying to the latter vote of thanks Mr. Smith said that the show had cost $40,000. Of this amount interests in the city of Vancouver had contributed $25,000. The C. P. R. had donated $1,000; one of the other transcontinental railway companies had given $1,000, while the provincial government had promised $4,000 to clear off the debt.

A resolution carried with a standing vote expressed deep regret at the loss to the Association of the late Captain P. Elliston, and ordered that a letter of condolence be sent to his relations.

Another resolution expressed the association's approval of the valuable work done by the provincial government's department of agriculture and with the name of Mr. W. E. Scott was coupled.

Mr. Scott in replying pointed out that his department was doing everything possible to forward the interests of the fruit growers in the province, as well as those of the other branches of agriculture. He paid a high compliment to his staff of assistants. The packing schools, which the department intended to establish would be started in a week's time, and gradually they would be extended to all the different fruit districts. Two expert packers had already been appointed to look after this work.

An interesting feature of the concluding proceedings was the presentation by Mr. W. E. Scott on behalf of the association of a gold-headed cane to Mr. W. J. Brandrith, of Ladner. In presenting it Mr. Scott said that it was in recognition of the many services which Mr. Brandrith had rendered the fruit growers in the way of publicity through exhibition work. He was one of the oldest fruit growers in the province—a pioneer of the industry.

The following four delegates were appointed to attend the Dominion Fruit Conference to be held in Ottawa, probably next December: For Vancouver Island, Mr. Thomas A. Brydon; for the lower mainland, Mr. Maxwell Smith; for the Similkameen, Okanagan and Thompson districts, Mr. R. H. Agur; and for the Kootenays and Boundary district, Mr. T. Abriel.

The proceedings were brought to an end with a vote of thanks to the chairman, Mr. James Johnstone, of Nelson.

RICH MEN GIVE TO UNIVERSITY

Mr. James J. Hill And R. A. Booth Make Conditional Contributions To Funds Of Oregon Institution

PORTLAND, Jan. 7.—It is announced that James J. Hill, chairman of the board of directors of the Great Northern Railway, will contribute $50,000 to the endowment fund of the Willamette University, at Salem, Oregon, providing other contributions to the endowment fund are secured up to $250,000.

Some time ago R. A. Booth, of Eugene, announced that he would give $100,000 to the university endowment fund if other contributors came forward with $300,000 to the fund and $50,000 for a new university building.

The aggregate fund to be raised is $600,000. Of this sum $125,000 is available from other contributions, and with the Hill and Booth gifts amounting to $150,000, the university must raise an additional $325,000 to complete the fund.

POULTRY SHOW MOST SUCCESSFUL

Exhibition Brought To Conclusion Last Night Characterized By Fine Competition In All Classes

One of the best shows held by the Victoria Poultry and Pet Stock association came to a close last night in the Broad street hall. The exhibits were the best in quality and largest in number of any of the 25 previous exhibitions held by the association. Attendance was good and the show was successful in every way. It was evident that a larger hall will have to be secured for the next exhibition. Among the largest exhibits were those of barred Plymouth Rocks, White Wyandottes, both Brown and White Leghorns, and Rhode Island Reds. The show of game birds and of pigeons were well up to the mark.

The first row of cages, nearest the entrance, held a good display of Black Orpingtons, and W. N. Mitchell and W. H. B. Medd took most of the prizes in this class. There were row upon row of fine poultry. The single comb Black Minorcas were not shown in as large a number as previously, but the quality was excellent. E. Greenwood and Constable M. Blackstock were chief winners. There were quite a number of single comb Buff Orpingtons shown, Mr. Wood and the Roycroft poultry farm doing most of the prize winning. In the White Orpington class H. W. Van Annam had the chief display and secured prizes. The single comb White Leghorns was one of the largest classes, the quality being of the finest, Mr. Dougan of Cobble Hill was the largest prize winner. Another large class was the single comb Brown Leghorns, and there was keen competition among the exhibitors, the highest number of tickets going to Mr. F. Garland and M. Blackstock. The show of single comb Buff Leghorns was not as strong in quantity, but stronger in quality. Dean Bros. of Keatings were chief prize winners. The show of Rhode Island Reds was a big one, and the quality first class. O. B. Ormond, secretary of the association, and R. C. Hall took most of the prizes.

The single comb Rhode Island Reds were largely shown, Mr. William Jennings taking prizes with a large string exhibited by him. The entry of White Plymouth Rocks was big, the quality being high. W. Hodgson of Ladners showed one of the finest cockerels in the show in this class. E. Henderson was also a prize winner. The largest of all the classes in the show was that of barred Plymouth Rocks, the quality being conspicuous throughout. J. McGregor won the largest share of prizes. Other heavy winners were Blackstock Bros., Luke Pither and Johnson and Graham. The first prize cockerel in this class was a splendid bird. Second in point of size among the classes was that of the White Wyandottes. The birds in this class were some of the finest shown in the city. John Lewis showed the cockerels which took first, second and third prizes, and W. Caterall showed a cockerel which took first and a pullet which took first place.

The show of pigeons, the cages in tiers on a gallery, was an excellent one, some three hundred being shown. The exhibit was considered the finest show of pigeons held here. French's Menagerie, R. T. McDowell and Rolston Bros. were chief winners. The display of homers and fantails were largest.

The game birds were shown on another gallery, Rolston Bros., J. T. Smith and French's Menagerie showing some excellent game bantams. The Blue Andalusians were large in number, D. N. Jepson being a large exhibitor and W. H. Smith showed a number of Black Polish and Houdans. H. M. Fullerton had a great display of pit game birds, including some of the finest seen here. The Cochin bantams, both buff and white, were noticeable, in fact the display of game birds was good throughout.

ROBIN WRECKS ANOTHER BANK

(Continued from Page 1.)

vanced the theory that he was killed by inhaling poisonous gases in a laboratory test.

On this theory the family sought to collect $70,000 accident insurance. An autopsy performed by experts for the company showed, however, that death was the immediate result of pneumonia and Bright's disease.

Mr. Dickinson resigned and got Leslie M. Shaw to succeed him. Mr. Shaw proved a very successful business getter, but he did not agree with Mr. Dickinson, who still retained a large share in directing the policy of the bank, and resigned.

Mr. Dickinson became president again, but did not succeed in gaining the confidence of influential banking interests.

Dickinson and Robin had been friends. Robin was on the first directorate, but resigned. When the Northern bank was closed, and superintendent Hotchkiss of the state department of insurance made public his investigation into its affairs, a draft drawn by Robin on the Carnegie, with which he had no account, cropped out. From that time, there began a steady but continuous withdrawal of funds by depositors who had lost confidence. It could scarcely be called a run but in its culmination today it proved quite as effective. With the incoming administration the Northern Bank of New York and the Carnegie Trust company both became depositories. The comptroller became doubtful of the Carnegie, and insisted that the directors put up their personal bond.

Death of Lord Collins

LONDON, Jan. 5.—The Rt. Hon. Sir Richard Collins, Lord Collins, who was created a life peer in 1907, died today.

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SHIPPING FIRM LOCATES HERE

Advent Of Evans, Coleman and Evans Marks Recognition Of Growing Importance Of Victoria

Reference was made in the columns of the Colonist last week to the fact that the old pioneer shipping firm of Evans, Coleman & Evans, Ltd., of Vancouver, was about to etablish a branch here. They have secured a lease from the Grand Trunk Pacific railway of Pier "A" on very favorable conditions, and before the present month is over, they will be in full swing. The coming to Victoria of a house with their reputation and standing, marks an important epoch in the commercial history of Vancouver island, and emphasises the contention that the future of the island is assured. Men of such marked business acumen do not pick out Victoria to be the seat of their first branch depot, without the fullest investigation, and Victoria has reason to congratulate itself that such a progressive concern is located here.

The Evans Bros. started in Vancouver some 25 years ago, and by close attention to their field of action, combined with steady application and business integrity and conservatism built up a trade and reputation second to none on the Pacific coast. They have extensive dock and warehouse interests in Vancouver, ar the agents of many lines of steamers, local as well as foreign, do a very large business in cement, plaster, bricks and everything in the general building line, they are importers of steel rails, gas, water and sewer pipes, as well as iron and steel products of all descriptions. They handle in a very extensive way cannery supplies of all kinds, also salt, pig iron, Calcutta bags, Hessian cloth and other articles too numerous to mention. Large stocks of all these commodities will be carried in Victoria.

The local manager, Mr. H. J. Crowe, enters this field under very favorable auspices. He will be ably assisted by Mr. W. F. Salsbury, jr., who has received his business training in the Vancouver office.

Two well known local men, Messrs. R P. Butchart and F. S. Barnard, are directors of the corporation, their standing is well known, the other directors are residents of Vancouver, all business men of the highest class. Messrs. E. E. Evans (president), P. W. Evans, William Farrell and A. L. Russell.

Mr. Russell is managing director, and is known to be one of the best authorities on all matters pertaining to shipping and importing business in Canada. The secretary-treasurer of the corporation is Mr. W. L. Martin, a recent arrival from San Francisco, formerly manager of H. M. Newhall & Co., merchants and importers of the Bay City, and a man of very extensive business knowledge. Mr. T. M. Robertson, who is well and favorably known on the island as well as on the mainland, is secretary-manager of the Evans, Coleman Wharf Co., Ltd., in Vancouver. His recent promotion is the result of many years hard work, and a fit recognition of his ability.

The large stocks of building material, etc., carried by the company, and their knowledge of the requirements of a growing city should be of great assistance to the community, and facilitate and cheapen all building operations.

HARDENED CRIMINALS ONLY

Oregon Judge Thinks Other Classes of Offenders Should Not Be Sent to Penitentiary

PORTLAND, Jan. 5.—Only incorrigible criminals and manslayers will be sentenced to the penitentiary by Judge Henry E. McGinn, who has just taken his seat on the bench of the state circuit court here, according to a statement made by him today.

Judge McGinn divides men guilty of crimes into three classes. First he mentions the first offender, a young fellow with previously a clean record. Such a man should not, Judge McGinn asserts, be compelled to carry the balance of his life the burden of a prison sentence. The second is the weakling, that is the man who is good or bad according as his environment is good or bad. To imprison him along with habitual criminals, Judge McGinn says, prevents any possibility of reformation. The third class is made up of professional criminals, men of criminal instinct by heredity or their early training.

Judge McGinn says even as low and lost to all moral sense as is the incorrigible, he would not send him to prison were there any other course open. Were science sufficiently advanced to offer a means to deal with this class of criminal, Judge McGinn would turn the incorrigible over to it. As it is not, he says he presumes he shall be forced to sentence such lawbreakers to terms in the penitentiary.

LEARNS NEWS OF HIS MOTHER'S DEATH

Chief Justice Hunter Bereft Of Both His Parents Within Two Months' Time—Death Unexpected

Arriving back from Toronto on New Year's day where he had been attending the funeral of his father, Chief Justice Hunter yesterday received word of the death of his mother in the eastern city. The late lady was in excellent health when her son left Toronto just two weeks ago. She was 75 years of age and a native of Inverness, Scotland.

The chief justice received word of the fatal illness of his father while the Allen case was in progress bfeore him and it is a coincidence that on Monday next he was to hear an application as to whether he should grant an appeal in the same case.

Rhodes Scholar

Mr. W. J. Pearse, who has just been awarded the Rhodes' Scholarship for McGill university matriculed from the University school of this city. He was an excellent all-round fellow; was head of the school; a speedy three-quarter on the rugby fifteen and was on the first eleven cricket team. Since going to McGill he has made a splendid record. Head of the year 1912; president of year 1912, including all faculties; vice-president of the arts undergraduate society; tennis champion (singles); tennis, intercollegiate (doubles); cross-country champion. The masters and boys of University school are proud of Pearse.

COLD ENDS LIFE OF VICTORIA MAN

M. B. Pendry And One Companion Perish On Trip In Portland Canal District—Third Man Badly Frozen

STEWART, B. C., Jan. 1.—(Prince Rupert, B. C., Jan. 7.—Matthew B. Pendray, of Victoria, and Robert M. Lightenor, of Soap Lake, Washington, are dead, and Charles Gordon severely frozen, and not expected to live, is the report brought to town by a trapper from the headwaters of Bear river. The men perished crossing the glacier in a blinding snowstorm, enroute to Stewart after locating land in the Nass river valley. They were at work for parties in Victoria.

The late Mr. Pendray leaves a wife in this city. Robert M. Liehenor was little known here. The third man was engaged by the two in the north for the trip.

BALFOUR GUTHRIE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Large Export and Import Firm Opens Offices at Vancouver and Are Expected to Come Here.

Balfour Guthrie & Co., a large import and export firm have opened an office in Vancouver and are expected to establish a Victoria office in the near future. This firm handles a good deal of the wheat exported from the United States ports in the North Pacific.

The establishment of the branch in Vancouver follows the inauguration of the Balfour, Guthrie line of chartered steamers from Europe to the Pacific Northwest, several of which have already delivered freight at San Francisco and Puget Sound ports. According to representatives of the company an export business of grain, coal, salmon and lumber will be carried on. Lumber shipments from British Columbia have been steadily increasing in the last few years and recently coal shipments have increased heavily.

The chief articles of import will consist of general freight, cement, pig iron and similar products, brought from Europe. The steamers in the European fleet arriving recently have called at Victroia and Vancouver with cargo before coming to Tacoma.

London and Liverpool are the headquarters of the firm of Balfour, Guthrie & Co., and the firm has branch houses in about every section of the commercial world. On this coast its houses are at Tacoma, Seattle, Portland, San Francisco and Los Angeles. On the west coast the company has offices at Valparaiso, Telcahuano, Concepcion and Traiguen.

Railways Lose Case

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 5.—In a sweeping decision yesterday the supreme court of the United States upheld the Carmack amendment to the interstate commerce law requiring interstate carriers to issue through bills of lading when shipments are sent over two or more lines, and making the initial carrier responsible for damages to the shipment no matter on what line it may occur. The decision declared that the amendment, which was bitterly fought by the railroads, was constitutional.