

Ladner, B. C.

31st March 1928.

A. E. Melius Jarvis, Esq.,

Toronto.

Dear Jarvis:-

The same mail that brought me your letter of the 26th inst., brought Vancouver papers announcing the merger of the B. C. F. & P. Co and the Gosse Pkg. Co., and a despatch from your city stating the management of the combined company would be in the hands of the Gosses, with Dick Gosse as head of the new organization.

I am very pleased this amalgamation has been effected, and believe that with it a long period of profitable stability lies ahead of the new company. I trust however that the despatch about the Gosses heading the management is incorrect, for while I know them to be technically qualified practical cannerymen I do not think the position and prestige of the B. C. F. & P. Co permits the younger organization assuming control of the situation. It would be a case of "the tail wagging the dog" and a tacit admission to the general public that no one the older company could nominate was considered competent or experienced enough to properly represent its interests.

This suggestion of weakness has already been evidenced by the fact that since the absorption of the Wallace Fisheries the direction of operations of the combined company has almost entirely been in the hands of former employees of the Wallace company. Their prominence in the management was a reflection on the staff of the B. C. F. & P. Co, while the results of 1927 operations added no laurels to the reputation of the Wallace officials. If now the Gosses are to be preferred above both the older organizations - and from the standpoint of knowledge and experience they have every right to such preference - it will practically advertising to the world that the salvation of the B. C. F. & P. Co and its subsidiary company lay in putting control of operations into the hands of those who were their most aggressive and formidable competitors. And with the success the new management cannot help achieving the Gosses reputation will be enhanced and that of all B. C. F. & P. Co representatives correspondingly lessened.

To "save its own face" I think it essential the B. C. F. & P. Co interests should insist on the same paramount voice in the actual management that their majority holdings in the share capital entitles them to. And the only way they can do this, and get credit for its accomplishment, is by the appointment of one who is admittedly equal, if not superior, to the Gosses in knowledge and experience of every phase of the fishing industry. And with all due humility I claim that I am the only one your interests can possibly name who possesses the necessary attributes. Despite the ill returns I have received for my devotion to its interests I am admittedly a "B. C. Packers supporter"

