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FRUIT GROWERS UNITE

Leading Growers Discuss Feasible Plan to Form Provincial Exchange

A very interesting and profitable meeting of fruit growers was held in the sample room of the Hotel Penticton on Monday evening, at which Jas. Johnstone, the president, and W. J. Brandrith, the secretary of the B. C. Fruit Growers' Association, and P. H. Wilson, the president of the local exchange at Chilliwack delivered addresses. The attendance was fair, but not so large as it would have been had longer notice been given. However, as meetings should be judged by results rather than by the numbers that attend, this one must be regarded as very successful.

W. J. C. Ede, the president of the Penticton Exchange, occupied the chair.

MR. JOHNSTONE,

who is a very successful g ower at Nelson, and is also the president of the lately formed Fruit and Produce Exchange of B. C., was the first speaker. In his address, Mr. Johnstone clearly pointed out the advantages to be derived from co-operation in marketing. He had been instrumental in the organization of the Fruit and Produce Exchange of B. C. with headquarters at Revelstoke. The object of this organization was to market all the fruit grown in the province. The disadvantage of the past system, by which each exchange has sought its own market, has been, as is well known, that proper distribution of prodnce has been impossible, often a glut being formed in places, while in others fruit could not be had.

The new union had been begun last spring and had met with good results. It was now desired to bring in all the local exchanges in the province so that more effective work might be done next year. In order for an exchange to become a member of the Fruit and Produce Exchange, it was necessary to deposite $100.00. This would be paid back from the profits of the sales. Some exchanges charged ten per cent., others five, but in the State of Washington, where the fruit was all handled by a central union, only one per cent. was charged. Each local would be responsible to the central body for the class of fruit sent out, and the central would bear the responsibility of finding a market. By the central organization having full charge of marketing, it would be possible to properly distribute the fruit, as all wholesale firms in the North West would deal directly with it.

Incidentally the speaker touched upon the packing of apples, and expressed himself of opinion that the most satisfactory way in which to have it done was to have a central packing house to which the growers brought the apples in their orchard boxes.

Under the system of handling fruit hitherto in vogue, the grower received no redress if the receiver claimed that the fruit arrived in bad condition. Under the systematic method which he wished to ettablish, the difficulty would be overcome. It would be necessary to keep one first-class man at a good salary to have charge of the marketing and the local exchanges would constantly keep him informed as to the shipments they had ready. At his direction the fruit would be shipped direct from the producers to the wholesale firms in the Northwest. Each grower would have his own mark upon each box, and thus his individuality would be preserved.

MR. BRANDRITH

was next called upon and, in beginning, gave a very pointed illustration of the effects of the lack of co-operation. He had been attending exhibitions in Manitoba and the Northwest, and at many of the towns there were no plums to be had at any price. When he reached Calgary he had noticed an immense stack of plums, and, upon enquiring as to their value, was told that he could have any quantity at sixty cents per crate. There were plums from almost every section of the province in the pile.

The central organization would have canvassers in the Northwest, a larger territory would be covered, and the work would be more cheaply carried on, as only one president and one secretary would be necessary. He approved of the plan whereby the grower's name would be put on every box, as in that way he would benefit from sending out a good article, and could be located if he sent out inferior fruit.

MR. WILSON

followed in an address in which he outlined the work that had been accomplished by the local exchange at Chilliwack, and heartily endorsed the plan of union. Until the exchange had been started at Chilliwack, everybody had packed their own fruit, and had shipped to Vancouver. Owing to the competition of the growers in the market, a low price had to be accepted and they got no redress if the purchaser proved dishonest. The exchange had been organized last year with a result that better prices were being obtained. Some of the dealers had refused to pay the prices asked by the exchange and had gone to the farmers, but by the time they had paid the cost of picking, packing and shipping, the fruit had cost more than if they had dealt with the exchange. Formerly apples had brought about 80 cents per box, f. o. b. Chilliwack, but they were now bringing $1.25 f. o. b. Mr. Wilson said he realized that better apples could be grown in the Okanagan than at Chilliwack, and, consequently, better prices could be obtained at this point.

At the conclusion of Mr. Wilson's address, a number of

IMPORTANT POINTS

were brought out through questions asked by the hearers. The capital stock of the Fruit and Produce Exchange of B. C. was ten thousand dollars, but it comprised the local exchanges of the Kootenay, Revelstoke, Salmon Arm, and Chilliwack and was, consequently, very strong. The freight on the produce would be paid by the purchaser, hence a larger capital stock was unnecessary. The Exchange dealt with the wholesale merchants, not with the consumers, and there had never been any lack of orders. The entire output of Chilliwack had passed through the Exchange this year. There were three men at present in the Northwest taking orders.

As the central exchange received its orders, it would forward them to the local exchanges, stating the prices that would be paid. Produce would be sold, as is usual in commercial transactions, on thirty days credit. The central organization would collect payment and make returns to the local exchanges every thirty days.

Regarding market, Mr. Johnstone stated that the demand could not be supplied in twenty years. The fault in the past had been that all had shipped to one place. Nevertheless, British Columbia will have to work to keep the market in the future as the Ontario growers are sparing no efforts to get control. Being questioned regarding tomatoes the answer was that there had never been a surplus of tomatoes reported, but lack of proper distribution was responsible for failure to find a market.

The much mooted question of freight rates over the C. P. R. was brought up, whereupon the three speakers assured their hearers that the C. P. R. gave much better rates than the American lines, so that there was no danger of the California growers securing an advantage in that respect. Figures were quoted to substantiate their statements. Mr. Brandrith stated that the only reason that California fruit brought a higher price than that from this province was in the name. British Columbia fruit could be picked when ripe and was, in consequence, much superior in flavor to that from California, which had to be picked green, and merely softened in transit. When people came to really know British Columbia fruit, they would be willing to pay a much higher figure for it.

Mr. Johnson said that this year he had sold his cherries for twenty cents per pound, and had actually, on one occasion, received two dollars for eight pounds. This was the result of getting a name, and nobody would find any difficulty in securing high prices if they took good care to get a little name. The object of the central exchange was to foster this individual spirit, and to assist and encourage the individual grower.

In conclusion Mr. Brandrith had a

WORD OF WARNING

to fruit growers. Salmon Arm had for years been famous for its highly colored apples. Three years ago there was not a sign of disease of any kind in the orchards. A few days ago he and Mr. Wilson had gone through the packing house at that place and failed to find an apple that would grade No. 1 on account of scab. Mr. Brandith said he would give his remedy by a quotation from St. Paul, with the addition of one letter; "Spray without ceasing."

It was suggested that a show of hands be taken in order to test the feeling of the meeting in regard to uniting with the Fruit and Produce Exchange in order to strengthen the hands of the speakers at future meetings. The feeling of the meeting proved unanimous in favor of the union. A vote of thanks was then passed to the speakers for the addresses they had given.

This was the first of a series of meetings that will embrace Summerland, Peachland, Kelowna, Vernon and other points farther north.

D. C. McLaren, of Vancouver, Grand Master of the Orange Lodge for British Columbia, spent Monday in Penticton. Mr. McLaren is on a trip through the province visiting various lodges, and assisting in the organization of new ones. He left on Tuesday morning for Keremeos.

The strawberry is always considered an early summer fruit, yet E. Curtis, Mgr. of the Okanagan Nursery Co., was last week showing a bunch of mature berries gathered on the 15th. of November from the lot of W. H. Scott on the bench. The berries were grown on a plant from a runner, and Mr. Curtis says that the parent plant has produced over fifty plants this season. He believes that if the parent plant were not allowed to produce more than two plants, strawberries could be grown at a profit in the late fall.

Local and Personal

J. W. Milligan of Kelowna spent Tuesday in Penticton.

L. P. Evarts has the framework up of a good sized house near his present residence.

Don't forget to buy a ticket to the Grand Ball in Steward's Hall on the 29th. inst. Apply to Chas. Were or Henry Main.

Robt. Parmley is receiving the congratulations of his many friends on the arrival of another boy to help look after the horses.

Frank Bawtinheimer of Kelowna, and Chas. Burtch of Summerland, have been spending the past week shooting in this vicinity.

C. V. Cross, V. S., spent a week in Hedley, returning on Wednesday evening. He is now at Fairview, but will be back on Tuesday.

The ladies of the Presbyterian church will hold a sale of work in Steward's hall Wednesday, Nov. 27, from 2 p. m. to 8 p. m. There will also be a supply of homemade cooking for sale, especially for bachelors.

R. J. Armstrong of Keremeos was in town a couple of days this week. He stated that he would return at the end of next week with a load of mutton, comprising stall fed Shropshire lambs from his ranch, and would dispose of them about town.

A telegram conveying the sad news of the death of Mrs. Thos. Welford, mother of Mrs. Thos. Roadhouse and Mrs. R. H. Weeks of Penticton, was received from North Dakota on Monday evening. It had been expected that Mrs. Welford would spend the winter here.

Dugald Burpee and wife arrived from Fredericton, N. B. last week bringing a team and a carload of effects with them. Mr. Burpee is now having a house built on his land on the bench this side of Dog Lake. Mr. and Mrs. Burpee were accompanied by Geo. W. Foster who will also settle here.

An event of considerable local interest was the marriage on Wednesday morning of Mr. Dan McKay, of Penticton, and Mrs. Palmer, who has had charge of the boarding house at Naramata for some time. The ceremony was performed at Summerland by the Rev. Jas. Hood. The PRESS extends its congratulations and good wishes for a happy and prosperous wedded life.

J. Gibbins, Provincial Inspector of Dairies and Milk, paid a visit to Penticton on Saturday last. He spent some time in inspecting the dairy owned by H. M. McNeil. He expressed himself as perfectly satisfied with the airy and commodious stables, the sanitary arrangements, dairy utensils, etc. After a thorough examination he pronounced the cows perfectly healthy and in first-rate condition.

Wm. H. Harris this week exhibited some fine looking samples of ore from the claim lately opened up by himself and his brother Henry near Green Lake, southwest of Okanagan Falls. The sample, which was taken fourteen feet below the surface, probably carries gold, silver, and copper, but in what proportions is not yet known as returns have not yet been received from an assay being made at the coast. At the depth of fourteen feet the ledge is seven feet in width. It has also been traced for about two miles on the surface. Harris Bros. intend beginning development work as soon as sufficient capital has been raised. Should the claim turn out as well as it promises, it will mean a great deal to the vicinity of Okanagan Falls and Penticton.

THE PENTICTON PRESS

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ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION.

Oriental Restriction

It is beginning to look as though the mission of Hon. Rodolph Lemieux, Canadian Postmaster-General and Minister of Labor, to Japan would bear fruit in the restricton of Japanese immigration.

This is apparently coming none too soon as, if we are rightly informed, there are at present at least fifteen hundred idle men walking the streets of Vancouver. At any rate, if the present stringency in the money market continues much longer, the country is certain to have, in the place of a scarcity of labor, a scarcity of work. When that time comes, what is the country going to do with its fifty thousand Orientals? The life of an Asiatic will not be worth as much as the life of a coyote, and all the powers of the state will not be able to afford him protection.

Side by side with these facts we see instances of men like Rudyard Kipling or the Rev. Dr. Robert Johnson of Montreal spending a few days in this province and then going east and addressing public gatherings as though they knew all about the question. One can hardly conceive the audacity of such persons, who have never had the opportunity of seeing below the surface, setting themselves up as teachers, but the spectacle of large gatherings listening with mouths open to their utterances is still more surprising.

Doubtless white laborers are often unreasonable in their demands, and are unwilling to do a fair day's work for a fair day's pay, but it is noticeable that such conditions are invariably found where white labor is brought into competition with that of the lower races. A depraved appetite, which must be fed upon the thing that caused it is formed; hence the demand for yellow laborers to develope our resources. There is no example in history where a country long endured having as its inhabitants two races, the one subservient to the other. The case of the Southern States, with its Negro population, should prove sufficient example for Canadians to avoid.

To what purpose is all this feverish haste to develope the resources of the country. Canadians have a great heritage with great resources, but that is no reason why they should call in the whole barbaric world to assist them in wasting it. Our country has great resources; then let us see that those resources are kept for a great people and their posterity for generations to come. More patriotism and less greed for immediate personal gain is what is needed in Canada, and we are glad that the Dominion government has grasped the situation, even though it may be late in the day, and hope that Mr. Lemieux' mission may accomplish all that is expected of it by this province.

The Mail Order Business.

It is reported that in the space of twenty minutes over three hundred dollars worth of money orders payable to eastern mail order houses were purchased a few days ago at the local post office. It is estimated that a larger cash business is done with those eastern firms than with any store in town. Unless something is done to check this outflow of cash, Penticton is doomed to exceedingly hard times in the not very distant future. It seems that people cannot be brought to realize the damage they are doing, not only to the town, but, indirectly, to themselves by sending their cash away. Instances have been cited where people sent their cash out of town and then asked the local merchant for credit. This is anything but a fair deal. There are cases, where certain articles are not carried by the local merchants, in which buyers are justified in sending away, but when it comes to the most commonplace forms of merchandise it is a different matter. Usually, if the express be added to the cost of the goods, there is very little to be gained by dealing with the departmental stores. However, the local merchants should also realize their responsibility to the community as well as the buyers, and sell their goods at as small a margin as possible. A cash discount that would so reduce the cash price of goods as to render it unprofitable to send away might be offered. If the town is to build up as it is hoped that it will, both buyer and seller must co-operate in keeping all the money possible from leaving the place.

The provincial government taxes commercial travellers from other provinces. Why not tax Eaton and Simpson catalogues at the same rate? It is hardly within the power of the province to levy taxes upon goods imported from the east, but some scheme should be devised whereby the mail order houses would be made to bear a portion of the burden of taxation for the privilege of doing business within its borders.

Wanton Destruction.

There is one feature of the British Columbia Game Laws that should be amended. Ample care is being taken for the preservation of game animals and birds, but others that cannot be so classed, and yet are perfectly harmless, are allowed to be destroyed. Take, for instance, the divers, mud-hens, loons and ospreys, which frequent watery districts. These birds can be of no possible use to those who take a delight in destroying them. The brute instinct seeme to be so strong in some would-be sportsmen that they wish to kill every live thing that comes within their range. There are a number of varieties of birds and animals to be found in British Columbia that are not frequently met with elsewhere and they form no inconsiderable source of attraction to the lover of nature. The divers, which swim around our wharves and are naturally so tame, are very beautiful and graceful birds, and so are the shy loons, which break the monotony with their weird cries. The ospreys, or fish-hawks, are not often seen, and the fact that they subsist on fish should not be sufficient cause to warrant their destruction.

Many people come to British Columbia to make their homes here not merely on account of the climate and scenery, but also because in a new country it is possible to get nearer nature than in older settled places. Laws should, therefore, be passed to protect those animals and birds that by their presence make life more pleasant.

Small Debts Court

One thing very much needed in Penticton is a Small Debts Court. The complaint is continually expressed that it is next to impossible to collect a debt if the debtor does not wish to pay. Unless the sum to be collected is large, the time, trouble, and expense necessary to collection are so great that it pays better to lose the amount altogether. If the government were approached in the right way at the next meeting of the Legislature there can be no doubt that the need of the community in this respect will be met. This is a question for the Conservative Association to deal with.

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Terms moderate.
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This department, it is expected, will provide facilities for work second to none in the province. Prof. Aaron Perry, M. A., the organizer and late conductor of the Commercial Department of Victoria High School, will have charge of this Department in the College. The success that has attended Prof. Perry's efforts elsewhere guarantees the quality of the work to be done in this Department.
PIANOFORTE DEPARTMENT
Miss Eunice Winnifred Haines will conduct the work in pianoforte instruction. Miss Haines is a pupil of Prof. George Pratt Maxim, of Boston, a graduate with honors from the Pianoforte Department of the School of Music of Acadia Seminary, and winner in the competition for musical composition adjudged by Dr. Percy Goetschins of Boston, the specialist on Tone Relations. Miss Haines has had successful experience in teaching and comes highly recommendad by Principal DeWolfe, of Acadia Seminary.
VOCAL DEPARTMENT
The work in Voice Culture will be under charge of Miss Kathrine Cleveland Davison of Boston, an experienced Teacher, Choir and Choral Class Director and pupil of Prof. Frank E. Morse of Boston and Madame Gertrude Franklin Salisbury, of the International School of Music of Boston, Florence and Paris.
For further information apply to
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The Hound of the Baskervilles

Another Adventure of Sherlock Holmes.

BY A. CONAN DOYLE.

Author of "The Green Flag" and "The Great Boer War"

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"Thank you; I am afraid I cannot claim her acquaintance. We have established a most important fact by these questions, Watson," he continued, in a low voice, as we went upstairs together. "We know now that the people who are so interested in our friend have not settled down in his own hotel. That means that while they are, as we have seen, very anxious to watch him they are equally anxious that he should not see them. Now, this is a most suggestive fact."

"What does it suggest?"

"It suggests—halloa, my dear fellow, what on earth is the matter?"

As we came round the top of the stairs we had run up against Sir Henry Baskerville himself. His face was flushed with anger, and he held an old and dusty boot in one of his hands. So furious was he that he was hardly articulate, and when he did speak it was in a much broader and more Western dialect than any which we had heard from him in the morning.

"Seems to me they are playing me for a sucker in this hotel," he cried. "They'll find they've started in to monkey with the wrong man unless they are careful. By thunder, if that chap can't find my missing boot there will be trouble. I can take a joke with the best, Mr. Holmes, but they've got a bit over the mark this time."

"Still looking for your boot?"

"Yes, sir, and mean to find it."

"But, surely, you said that it was a new brown boot?"

"So it was, sir. And now it's an old black one."

"What! you don't mean to say——?"

"That's just what I do mean to say. I only had three pairs in the world—the new brown, the old black, and the patent leathers, which I am wearing. Last night they took one of my brown ones, and to-day they have sneaked one of the blacks. Well, have you got it? Speak out, man, and don't stand staring!"

An agitated German waiter had appeared on the scene.

"I have made inquiry all over the hotel, but I can hear no word of it."

"Well, either that boot comes back before sundown or I'll see the manager and tell him I go right out of the hotel."

"It shall, sir—I promise you that it will have a little patience it will be found."

"Mind you, it's the last thing of mine I'll lose in den of thieves, Mr. Holmes, you'll excuse me troubling you about such a trifle——"

"I think it worth troubling about."

"Why, you look very serious over it."

"How do you explain it?"

"I just don't attempt to explain it. It seems the very maddest, queerest thing that ever happened to me."

"The queerest perhaps——" said Holmes, thoughtfully.

"What do you make of it yourself?"

"Well, I don't profess to understand it yet. This case of yours is very complex, Sir Henry. When taken in conjunction with your uncle's death I am not sure that of all the five hundred cases of capital importance which I have handled there is one which cuts so deep. But we hold several threads in our hands, and the odds are that one or other of them guides us to the truth. We may waste time in following the wrong one, but sooner or later we must come upon the right."

We had a pleasant luncheon in which little was said of the business which had brought us together. It was in the private sitting-room to which we afterwards repaired that Holmes asked Baskerville what were his intentions.

"To go to Baskerville Hall."

"And when?"

"At the end of the week."

"On the whole," said Holmes, "I think that your decision is a wise one. I have ample evidence that you are being dogged in London, and amid the millions of this great city it is difficult to discover who these people are or what their object can be. If their intentions are evil they might do you a mischief, and we should be powerless to prevent it. You did not know, Dr. Mortimer, that you were followed this morning from my house?"

C.P.A.

'His name," said the cabman, "was Mr Sherlock Holmes."

Dr. Mortimer started violently.

"Followed! By whom?"

"That, unfortunately, is what I cannot tell you. Have you among your neighbors or acquaintances on Dartmoor any man with a black, full beard?"

"No—or, let me see—why, yes. Barrymore, Sir Charles's butler, is a man with a full, black beard."

"Ha! Where is Barrymore?"

"He is in charge of the Hall."

"We had best ascertain if he is really there, or if by any possibility he might be in London."

"How can you do that?"

"Give me a telegraph form. 'Is all ready for Sir Henry?' That will do. Address to Mr. Barrymore, Baskerville Hall. What is the nearest telegraph-office? Grimpen. Very good, we will send a second wire to the postmaster, Grimpen: 'Telegram to Mr. Barrymore, to be delivered into his own hand. If absent, please return wire to Sir Henry Baskerville, Northumberland Hotel.' That should let us know before evening whether Barrymore is at his post in Devonshire or not."

"That's so," said Baskerville. "By the way, Dr. Mortimer, who is this Barrymore, anyhow?"

"He is the son of the old caretaker, who is dead. They have looked after the Hall for four generations now. So far as I know, he and his wife are as respectable a couple as any in the country."

"At the same time," said Baskerville, "it's clear enough that so long as there are none of the family at the Hall these people have a mighty fine home and nothing to do."

"That is true."

"Did Barrymore profit at all by Sir Charles's will?" asked Holmes.

"He and his wife had five hundred pounds each."

"Ha! Did they know that they would receive this?"

"Yes; Sir Charles was very fond of talking about the provisions of his will."

"That is very interesting."

"I hope," said Dr. Mortimer, "that you do not look with suspicious eyes upon everyone who received a legacy from Sir Charles, for I also had a thousand pounds left to me."

"Indeed! And anyone else?"

"There were many insignificant sums to individuals, and a large number of public charities. The residue all went to Sir Henry."

"And how much was the residue?"

"Seven hundred and forty thousand pounds."

Holmes raised his eyebrows in surprise. "I had no idea that so gigantic a sum was involved," said he.

"Sir Charles had the reputation of being rich, but we did not know how very rich he was until we came to examine his securities. The total value of the estate was close on to a million."

"Dear me! It is a stake for which a man might well play a desperate game. And one more question, Dr Mortimer. Supposing that anything happened to our young friend here—you will forgive the unpleasant hypothesis!—who would inherit the estate?"

"Since Rodger Baskerville, Sir Charles's younger brother, died unmarried, the estate would descend to the Desmonds, who are distant cousins. James Desmond is an elderly clergyman in Westmorland."

"Thank you. These details are all of great interest. Have you met Mr. James Desmond?"

"Yes; he once come down to visit Sir Charles. He is a man of venerable appearance and of saintly life. I remember that he refused to accept any settlement from Sir Charles though he pressed it upon him."

"And this man of simple tastes would be the heir to Sir Charles's thousands."

"He would be the heir to the estate, because that is entailed. He would also be the heir to the money unless it were willed otherwise by the present owner, who can, of course, do what he likes with it."

"And have you made your will, Sir Henry?"

"No, Mr. Holmes, I have not. I've had no time, for it was only yesterday that I learned how matters stood. But in any case I feel that the money should go with the title and estate. That was my poor uncle's idea. How is the owner going to restore the glories of the Baskervilles if he has not money enough to keep up the property? House, land, and dollars must go together."

"Quite so. Well, Sir Henry, I am of one mind with you as to the advisability of your going down to Devonshire without delay. There is only one provision which I must make. You certainly must not go alone."

"Dr. Mortimer returns with me."

"But Dr. Mortimer has his practice to attend to, and his house is miles away from yours. With all the good will in the world, he may be unable to help you. No, Sir Henry, you must take with you someone, a trusty man, who will be always by your side."

"Is it possible that you could come yourself, Mr. Holmes?"

"If matters came to a crisis I should endeavour to be present in person; but you can understand that, with my extensive consulting practice and with the constant appeals which reach me from many quarters, it is impossible for me to be absent from London for an indefinite time. At the present instant one of the most revered names in England is being besmirched by a blackmailer, and only I can stop a disastrous scandal. You will see how impossible it is for me to go to Dartmoor."

"Whom would you recommend, then?"

Holmes laid his hand upon my arm.

"If my friend would undertake it there is no man who is better worth having at your side when you are in a tight place. No one can say so more confidently than I."

The proposition took me completely by surprise, but before I had time to answer, Baskerville seized me by the hand and wrung it heartily.

"Well, now, that is real kind of you, Dr. Watson," said he. "You see how it is with me, and you know just as much about the matter as I do. If you will come down to Baskerville Hall and see me through I'll never forget it."

The promise of adventure had always a fascination for me, and I was complimented by the words of Holmes and by the eagerness with which the baronet hailed me as a companion.

"I will come, with pleasure," said I. "I do not know how I could employ my time better."

"And you will report very carefully to me," said Holmes. "When a crisis comes, as it will do, I will direct how you shall act. I suppose that by Saturday all might be ready?"

"Would that suit Dr. Watson?"

"Perfectly."

"Then on Saturday, unless you hear to the contrary, we shall meet at the 10.30 train from Paddington."

We had risen to depart when Baskerville gave a cry of triumph and diving into one of the corners of the room he drew a brown boot from under a cabinet.

"My missing boot!" he cried.

"May all our difficulties vanish as easily!" said Sherlock Holmes.

"But it is a very singular thing," Dr. Mortimer remarked. "I searched this room carefully before lunch."

"And so did I," said Baskerville. "Every inch of it."

"There was certainly no boot in it then."

"In that case the waiter must have placed it there while we were lunching."

The German was sent for, but professed to know nothing of the matter, nor could any inquiry clear it up. Another item had been added to that constant and apparently purposeless series of small mysteries which had succeeded each other so rapidly. Setting aside the whole grim story of Sir Charles's death, we had a line of inexplicable incidents all within the limits of two days, which included the receipts of the printed letter, the black-bearded spy in the hansom, the loss of the new brown boot, the loss of the old black boot, and now the return of the new brown boot. Holmes sat in silence in the cab as we drove back to Baker Street, and I knew from his drawn brows and keen face that his mind, like my own, was busy in endeavoring to frame some scheme into which all these strange and apparently disconnected episodes could be fitted. All afternoon and late into the evening he sat lost in tobacco and thought.

Just before dinner two telegrams were handed in. The first ran:—

"Have just heard that Barrymore is at the Hall.—Baskerville." The second:—

"Visited twenty-three hotels as directed, but sorry to report unable to trace cut sheet of Times.—Cartwright."

"There go two of my threads, Watson. There is nothing more stimulating than a case where everything goes against you. We must cast round for another scent."

"We have still the cabman who drove the spy."

"Exactly. I have wired to get his name and address from the Official Registry. I should not be surprised if this were an answer to my question."

The ring at the bell proved to be something even more satisfactory than an answer, however, for the door opened and a rough-looking fellow entered who was evidently the man himself.

"I got a message from the head office that a gent at this address had been inquiring for 2,704," said he. "I've driven my cab this seven years and never a word of complaint. I came here straight from the Yard to ask you to your face what you had against me."

"I have nothing in the world against you, my good man," said Holmes. "On the contrary, I have half a sovereign for you if you will give me a clear answer to my questions."

"Well, I've had a good day and no mistake," said the cabman, with a grin. "What was it you wanted to ask, sir?"

"First of all your name and address, in case I want you again."

"John Clayton, 3, Turpey Street, the Borough. My cab is out of Shipley's Yard, near Waterloo Station."

Sherlock Holmes made a note of it.

"Now, Clayton, tell me all about the fare who came and watched this house at ten o'clock this morning and afterwards followed the two gentlemen down Regent Street."

The man looked surprised and a little embarrassed. "Why, there's no good my telling you things, for you seem to know as much as I do already," said he. "The truth is that the gentleman told me that he was a detective and that I was to say nothing about him to anyone."

"My good fellow, this is a very serious business, and you may find yourself in a pretty bad position if you try to hide anything from me. You say that your fare told you that he was a detective?"

"Yes, he did."

"When did he say this?"

"When he left me."

"Did he say anything more?"

"He mentioned his name."

Holmes cast a swift glance of triumph at me. "Oh, he mentioned his name, did he? That was imprudent. What was the name that he mentioned?"

"His name," said the cabman, "was Mr. Sherlock Holmes."

Never have I seen my friend more completely taken aback than by the cabman's reply. For an instant he sat in silent amazement. Then he burst into a hearty laugh.

"A touch, Watson—an undeniable touch!" said he. "I feel a foil as quick and supple as my own. He got home upon me very prettily that time. So his name was Sherlock Holmes, was it?"

"Yes, sir, that was the gentleman's name."

"Excellent! Tell me where you picked him up and all that occurred."

(To be continued.)

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NOTICE TO HORSE OWNERS.
Veterinary Dentistry is practically new. Some of the many symptoms of bad teeth are slovering, loss of flesh, weak eyes, rough coats and many other symptoms. If your horses are troubled with any of these symptoms, be sure to have him examined. I use only improved, modern up-to-date instruments, including a mouth speculum that is unexcelled. Call and see me about your horses at the Commercial Stables.
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Stage leaves for Princeton every Tuesday at 7 a. m.
Stage leaves for Fairview and Oroville on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 6:30 a. m. Returns on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 6 p. m.

POST OFFICE.
Hours 9 a. m. to 6. p. m.
Registered Letter and Money Order wicket closes 5 p. m.
Wicket opened for half an hour after mail is distributed.
Arrivals—Per Str. Okanagan: Daily except Sunday 6 p. m.; Per stage from Hedley, Keremeos, Olalla, Green Mountain, Oroville, Fairview, and White Lake: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 6 p. m.
Closing—For boat and stages: 9 p. m. daily except Saturday. For Monday's boat and stages: 8.45 p. m. Sundays.

C. P. R. TIME TABLE
SHUSWAP & OKANAGAN BRANCH
Daily both ways except Sunday.

SOUTH BOUND	STATION	NORTH BOUND
7.30 a. m.	Sicamous	6.00 p.m.
6.27 "	Enderby	4.48 "
8.52 "	Armstrong	4.08 "
8.30 "	ar. Vernon lv.	3.30 "
9.30 "	lv. Vernon ar.	2.30 "
9.45 "	ar. Ok. Landing lv.	2.15 "
10.00 p. m.	lv. Ok. Landing ar.	11.00 a.m.
11.19 "	Kelowna	8.20 "
3.00 "	Peachland	7.25 "
4.45 "	Summerland	6.30 "
6.00 "	Penticton	6.00 "

FOR SALE
Peach Orchard for sale — cleaned, fenced, and planted with 1,200 trees. This will double itself in the spring. Price $1,850 on easy terms.
40 acres Fruit Land and house, on the lake front near Kelowna, partly cleared fenced and ready for planting. Price $1,200 on terms. A sure money maker.
Write JAMES BROOKS,
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FOR SALE
Three Angora Cats. For particulars address MRS. L. B. FARLEIGH,
18-4 Green Mountain.

FOR SALE.
A good, young, new milch cow in fine condition. Apply at PRESS Office. 18tf

TENDERS WANTED
For Fifteen cords of four foot Wood for Penticton Public School. Apply to J. R. Mitchell.

WANTED
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Agricultural and timber land for sale for $1.00 per acre with $2.00 per thousand feet of lumber.
Houses to let.
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Via Fairview
Leaves Penticton Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 6:30 a.m., arriving at Oroville the same day at 6 p. m.
Through Fare - $6.00
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Beard Trim and Hair Cut	50 "
Bath	50 "

OKANAGAN FALLS

D. M. Cox, the would-be "Humourist" and school teacher of Ok. Falls, has now retired from the city and is keeping batch at the old "Stage Ranch" of the above mentioned place.

Mr. J. Arnott has made a flying trip to Oroville and we hope to hear a good report on return.

WESTBANK

On Friday last there was a very enjoyable entertainment held in the schoolhouse here. The earlier part of the evening was given over to a concert programme. Help was given by both Kelowna and Peachland. Miss Steel's singing "Tatters" brought much applause, likewise the audience enjoyed a solo by Mrs. O. Pollard together with a duet by Mrs. Pollard and W. Coldham. Among the local talent Mrs. Campbell, Messrs. J. S. Marshall, J. and J. Campbell, together with Dr. Nash were heartily applauded, not forgetting Mr. Hayman's folk lore song. About 10:30 the seats were moved out and about 25 couples took possession of the floor and enjoyed a good time until the wee sma' hours. Mr. D'Aeth very kindly threw his residence near the school open for the ladies to have room to serve the refreshments. The net proceeds were $23.00, some of which will go to the Peachland circulating library, the balance used for school fittings such as lamps, etc.

Dr. Thacker, lately of England and Australia, has purchased 15 acres from R. C. Bennett near Shannon Lake.

Fall planting of fruit trees has been in vogue here this last week, Mr. Bennett planting on his Goldie Field property, and Mr. Faulkner on his ranch.

International Convention of Fruit Growers.

As announced in the PRESS of Oct. 26, the fifteenth annual convention of the North-West Fruit Growers' Association will be held at Vancouver on Dec. 4, 5, and 6. Fruit will be on exhibition, not only from all parts of British Columbia, but from the Western States as well, and substantial prizes are being offered. Special rates have been arranged for over the various railways, whereby delegates will purchase first class tickets to Vancouver and secure from the agents at the starting points receipts. On the presentation of these certificates, properly filled out and signed by the Secretary, return tickets will be issued free.

An excellent programme has been prepared whereby the convention will be addressed on subjects appertaining to fruit culture by leading growers of British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah and California.

Johnson—McRaye Recital.

The entertainment by Pauline Johnson and Walter McRaye on Friday evening was quite well patronized by the people of Penticton. Most of the numbers were well received by the audience, particularly Miss Johnson's recital of her poem, "The Englishman"; while Mr. McRaye's interpretation of Drummond's "Little Bateese" and "When Albani sang" received merited applause. The entertainment closed with a laughable farce in which both acted their parts to perfection.

The Kamloops district fruit zone is an extensive one. How far north it reaches has not yet been demonstrated but at Frank Allingham's place, about 120 miles up the North Thompson valley, apples and other hardy fruits flourish. A sample of apples brought down this fall and left with Government Agent G. C. Tunstall affords ample evidence that fruit-growing can be successfully conducted there.—Exchange.

Main Street Lots

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They will Double in Value Within a Year.

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Lots 15-16-17-18-19-20 Block 18—40 feet front.
" 6-7-8-9-10 " 19 "
" 5-6-7 " 33—46 feet front.
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The Southern Okanagan Land Co., LIMITED.

Successful Opening Concert.

The concert last evening to open the winter's series of the Literary Society's meetings was largely attended by the friends of the Society in spite of the disagreeable weather.

The entertainment opened by all singing a couple of verses of The Maple Leaf Forever; after which the President of the Society, J. F. Tupper, in a few words, outlined the aim and objects of the Society. The regular programme was opened by an instrumental duet by the Misses Ede and Lancaster, followed by a solo by Mrs. Mitchell to which she was obliged to respond with an encore. A comic recitation by Miss Sutherland was followed by a solo by Mr. Miller who was brought back for a second. Selections on the violin by Wm. Denniston, a Plantation Medley by Messrs. G. Harris, Hibbert, Wood and Tupper, and a piano solo by Mrs. Mahoney were also encored. A well rendered song by Charlie Thompson concluded the first half of the programme, after which a collection was taken and a few minutes' intermission enjoyed.

The second part of the programme opened with a violin solo by Mr. Wallace which received a hearty encore. Mr. Clement followed with a recitation, and was in turn followed by Mr. Hales whose solo was heartily encored. One of the best numbers on the programme was the presentation of the 1st. act in the 3rd scene of "As You Like It" by Miss Dexter, Miss Lancaster, and Mr. Miller. The parts were exceedingly well carried out and received the hearty appreciation of the audience. A duet, "Excelsior", by Mrs. Mitchell and A. Rowe brought the programme to a close and the concert broke up by the singing of the National Anthem.

Card of Thanks.

Having disposed of my business to W. R. King & Co., I take this opportunity of thanking all my customers for their past patronage and would solicit a continuance of the same for my successors. L. C. BARNES.

NOTICE.

After 60 days I intend to apply to the Honorable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase the following described lands:

Beginning at a post marked lot N.E. 41, thence north 40 chains, more or less, to Indian reserve lands; thence 80 chains, more or less, west to Osoyoos Lake; thence southerly along shore to west post of lot 41; thence east to point of commencement.

S. W. BROWN.

Osoyoos, B. C. Nov. 18th, 1907.

NOTICE

Similkameen Land District. District of Yale.

TAKE NOTICE that Messrs. Arnott and Hine, of Okanagan Falls, hotelkeepers, intend to apply for permission to purchase the following described land:—Commencing at a post planted at the north-west corner of and including a small island at the south-east end of Dog Lake; containing one acre, more or less.

WARWICK ARNOTT,
WILLIAM BAKER HINE.

Dated 24th September, 1907. 15-

NOTICE.

Similkameen Land District. District of Yale.

TAKE NOTICE that W. H. Legge, of Victoria, B. C., for himself and as agent for C. H. Wilson, of Nahum, B. C., occupation rancher, intends to apply for permission to purchase the following described land:—

Commencing at a post planted at the north-west corner of lot 3098, thence north 20 chains; thence east 40 chains; thence south 20 chains; thence west 40 chains to point of commencement, and containing 80 acres, more or less.

WALTER H. LEGGE.

Oct. 17, 1907. 15-

NOTICE

Sixty days after date we intend applying to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase 10 acres of land in Similkameen Division of Yale, described as follows:—

Commencing at the north-west corner of lot 190, group 1, Osoyoos; thence southerly along the west boundary of said lot 190 nine hundred feet; thence northerly following present shore line of Dog Lake six hundred feet more or less to the south boundary of lot 189, group 1, Osoyoos; thence northerly, easterly, and southerly along south boundaries of lots 189 and 197, group 1, Osoyoos, to point of commencement.

Purposes for which required—agricultural purposes.

W. T. SHATFORD.

Penticton, B. C., Oct. 24th, 1907. 15-

NOTICE

Similkameen Land District. District of Yale.

TAKE NOTICE that John J. Cochrane, of Moose Jaw, Sask., occupation Real Estate Agent, intends to apply for permission to purchase the following described land:—

Commencing at F. E. Jones' north-west corner post, thence south 40 chains; thence east 20 chains; thence north 40 chains; thence west 20 chains to point of commencement and containing 80 acres, more or less.

JOHN J. COCHRANE.
Agent, H. L. Jones.

Dated Oct. 26, 1807. 16-

NOTICE

FRUIT TREES—Well-grown stock. Large quantity of apple trees for sale, only few choice varieties grown: also small stock of ornamental trees. Apply for varieties and price to Manager, COLDSTREAM ESTATE CO., Ltd., Vernon, B. C.

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This is in the Finest Residential District with a beautiful view and the best of water. Nice large trees; peaches, plums, apples and cherries—some bearing this year. Just a few choice lots left, easy terms—One quarter cash, balance six, twelve and eighteen months. Interest at six per cent.

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Real Estate & Insurance Agent.

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