

# WATER POWER IN WEST DISCUSSED BY SEC. FISHER

## Report of the Interior Department Deals at Length With Question—State Control Opposed.

- Secretary Fisher's Principal Recommendations in His Annual Report to President Taft.
- Adoption of comprehensive water power policy for all streams in the United States.
- Comprehensive classification of public lands, and administration in accordance therewith.
- Enlarged application of leasing principle to the public domain generally.
- Amendment to mining law, giving prospector exclusive right for a term of years of possession, and prospecting within limited area.
- Legislation for development of transportation facilities and coal lands of Alaska.
- Comprehensive leasing law for coal, oil and other mineral lands.
- Withdrawal from entry of public lands in the west to protect headwaters of streams.
- Legislation for retirement and pensioning of civil employes of the government.

Washington, Dec. 16.—A definite and comprehensive water power policy for streams upon the public domain and navigable streams not on the public domain, is urged by the secretary of the interior, Walter L. Fisher, as the most important subject pending before congress, and in his annual report to President Taft.

Other legislation which Secretary Fisher recommends as important to the welfare of the country embodies an enlarged application of the leasing principle as applied to the public domain in general; a comprehensive leasing law for coal, oil and other mineral lands, and laws providing for the classification of public lands according to their respective characteristics and appropriate uses and administration in accordance therewith.

Secretary Fisher also declares in favor of legislation for the development of the transportation facilities and the coal lands of Alaska, and for the withdrawal from entry of public lands in the west needed to conserve the water supply at the sources of streams. He recommends the retirement and pensioning of the civil employes of the government. Most of his recommendations are in renewal and emphasis of those made in his previous annual report.

### Must Develop Power.

As to a water power policy, he says that it must be made certain that those who receive special privileges connected with water power development shall, in fact, proceed by appropriate degrees, and within appropriate times, to develop the available water power to its highest capacity, having due regard to the possibilities of marketing the product.

"We must make certain," he continues, "that the electric energy thus created shall be made available to the community in appropriate ways at appropriate prices. If it is not to be used for the benefit of the community, private purposes and personal advantage of the permittee, some method must be found by which the public will receive its share of the profits which the permittee may make over and above that which is a necessary and reasonable inducement for his investment."

The present law, he asserts, "neither promotes development nor protects the public interest in an effective manner," and he attributes this principally to the fact that a permit is "revocable at any time and without specific reason." He calls it a "serious and unjustifiable obstacle to the development and utilization of one of the nation's greatest natural resources." He declares that conditions and limitations should be defined by statute on which permits should be issued, and only for breach of which they should be cancelled.

### Road Grader Invented BY TWIN FALLS MAN

A road grader, attachable to any farm wagon or buggy, that does the work of filling up the chuck holes of a country road as the farmer makes his trip to and from market has been invented by Hugh C. Taylor of Buhl, and is now in use on one of the highways of Twin Falls county.

The inventor is in the city and will explain his machine to the meeting of the county commissioners tomorrow. He thinks that the invention will save a large amount of money now spent on county roads and believes that they will be kept in a much better condition than they now are.

The commissioners of Twin Falls county have discussed several of the machines along one of the roads into the city and the farmers are using them to determine whether or not they would be improvements over the old system. The machine increases the draught on the horses but slightly and can be attached to any wagon when the farmer leaves home and starts on his trip to town. As he goes, the ruts and chuck holes are filled on one side of the road and the other side is graded when he returns. The device consists of a disk wheel and a small scraper to pull and smooth over the dirt and round off the top of the road. The inventor thinks that it means better roads, a material saving to the farmers, and cheaper transportation. Some counties are now planning to rebate the poll tax to those farmers who use the machine on their wagon.

of the powers and the property now held by the nation. It is precisely this policy of practical co-operation which should be put into effect. There is no real conflict between the nation and the states upon the subject.

### Domestic Use of Streams.

"In general, all of the streams which are susceptible of water power development are also of great importance for domestic use, for irrigation and for navigation. All of them depend to some degree upon protection and aid of some kind and from some source for one or more of these uses. Increasingly that source tends to be the nation and not the states.

"Some of the individual states are developing effective policies of water conservation, but it is the federal government after all which is called upon to make the chief expenditures for the development of navigation, and for the protection of the forest cover around the sources and along the watersheds of both navigable and non-navigable streams."

The secretary emphasizes the recommendations made in his annual report last year for the need of a comprehensive land classification and of administration based thereon. The existing statutes, he says, attempt to recognize in a very general and ineffective way the fundamental differences between the different classes of agricultural lands still remaining in the public domain. The present system is not flexible enough to recognize the differences which are found in the present laws or lack of laws with regard to other parts of the public domain, especially our timber lands, our grazing lands, our water power and reservoir sites, and our lands containing coal, oil, gas, asphalt, potash, nitrates and phosphates."

### Constructive Legislation Urged.

Secretary Fisher recommends the "adoption of constructive legislation with respect to water power development, and the control and the comprehensive application of the leasing system to the development of our public coal, oil, gas, asphalt, nitrate, potash and phosphate lands, with appropriate provision for the protection of prospectors during a reasonable exploration period preliminary to the leasing of the lands." He points to the fact that in the Appalachian mountains the national forest reservation commission is now buying lands upon which timber can be raised, but not good for agricultural purposes, for conserving the waters at the heads of navigable streams.

"It is inexcusable," he declares, "to permit public lands of this character to be acquired now by private interests, when we are spending public moneys to buy such lands elsewhere, and may have to repurchase in the future the very lands from which the government is now parting." Where the public lands in the west in a similar situation to those now being bought in the east, he adds, and these "should be retained by the government in order that the streams whose headwaters they protect may be made as useful as possible. I am informed that there exist acres of public lands on the headwaters of the streams in the west, and particularly in the arid southwest, which should be withdrawn from entry because if their acquisition by private interests is permitted, the usual destructive effects will follow. It is not proposed to include lands whose value for other purposes is greater than their value to the community for stream protection."

As to homestead law legislation, the secretary says he is still of the same opinion, in spite of a somewhat different law passed last June, that "the homestead settled should be excused from the necessity of residing upon it and during the first two years after entry, provided he substituted for residence during that period the improvement and cultivation of a substantial portion of the ground." The law passed, he says, is being administered to encourage as much as possible the bona fide settler.

The whole development of Alaska, he reports, is waiting largely upon the passage of suitable legislation for the development of its transportation facilities and of its coal lands.

As to the reclamation service, he says the problems confronting that bureau "are rapidly becoming those of administration rather than engineering. Financial and technical questions of building shrink into insignificance compared with the more difficult human problem of dealing with thousands of settlers, and of inducing them to take action along lines which will lead to their greatest individual success."

### Federal vs. State Control.

As to federal as against state control of water power, comprehensive streams which are not navigable, the secretary says: "The suggestion is made frequently by those who are in one way or another representing either present or future investment in water power development that such power sites and their control should be turned over to the respective states in which they are located. It is interesting to note, however, that the ordinary citizens of these states are not at all concerned over federal usurpation or unjust treatment.

"They suspect that the real purpose of those who urge the turning over of the federal domain to the states is that they may escape the longer and the stronger arm of the federal government, and may take advantage of the more limited resources and governmental facilities of the individual states.

"While some states undoubtedly have wisely conserved certain of the lands and natural resources turned over to them by the nation, the story has too often been the acquisition of these lands and resources by special interests or individuals without adequate recognition of the public interest. There is no policy which it would be wise for any state to adopt with respect to these matters in the adoption and enforcement of which it cannot be supplemented and assisted, rather than retarded by the retention in federal hands

# COMMISSIONERS OF THE STATE TO MEET IN BOISE

## The Annual Session Convenes Tomorrow and an Interesting Three Days' Program Arranged.

Commissioners from every county in the state will meet at the Boise Commercial club rooms tomorrow. Problems that confront the boards of the various counties, needed changes in legislation, and other matters of common interest will be discussed.

Raymond L. Givens, county attorney, will speak along lines of needed legislation, while Judge William C. Dunbar is on the program for an address about the work of his court. County road work will be thrashed out by Arthur E. Fox, one of the engineers who built the concrete road of this county. Rev. O. P. Christian, Mayor Arthur Hodges, Governor-elect Haines, E. R. LaPoint, former Governor Brady and others are scheduled to make addresses to the commissioners.

### The program follows:

**Tuesday.**  
10 a. m.—Address of welcome by Mayor Hodges. Visit by Governor-elect Haines.  
11 a. m.—Organization of the convention. Reports of committee on credentials. Business session.  
2 p. m.—Discussion of bridges and bridge construction, by Engineer E. R. LaPoint.  
3 p. m.—Business session.

**Wednesday.**  
10 a. m.—"Needed Legislation," Raymond L. Givens.  
2 p. m.—Business session.  
3 p. m.—"The Juvenile Court," Judge W. C. Dunbar.  
6:30 p. m.—Annual banquet.

**Thursday.**  
10 a. m.—Business session. Reports of committees.  
11 a. m.—"County Road Work," Arthur E. Fox.  
2 p. m.—Business session.  
4 p. m.—"Children's Home," by Rev. O. P. Christian.  
7:30 p. m.—Reception at Children's Home. Address by ex-Governor Brady. The officers of the association of county commissioners are C. H. Puckenhain, president; H. C. Taylor, secretary, and George A. Latham, treasurer.

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# "SAFETY FIRST"

(Continued from First Page.)

loss of life, the report says, "has proceeded far enough to indicate the need of more effective measures than thus far have been taken to secure safety of railroad travel." While the previous suggestions of the commission as to the adoption by the railroads of all-steel, or steel-underframe, cars are being adopted "as rapidly as conditions will permit" and "the danger from the use of unsound cars is gradually disappearing," the serious dangers of defective roadways and the use of unsound rails still remain, as a result of which derailments are likely at any time to occur. Concerning its investigations, the commission says:

### Many Due to Bad Track.

"Of the 31 derailments investigated, 14 were either directly or indirectly caused by bad track. In five of these 14 cases the derailments would probably have been avoided had existing speed restrictions been observed; but in all the remaining cases no adequate speed restrictions were in force, and in three cases the track conditions were so obviously unsafe that derailments were likely to occur even at low speed. In one serious derailment an examination of the track in the vicinity of the accident disclosed 206 rotten ties within a distance of 147 rail lengths. Under many of the rails there were as many as 11 bad ties, and under each of two rails there were 12 ties so badly decayed and broken as to be totally unfit for service. In many of these ties the spikes were so loose that they were easily removed by hand, the wood having no longer any holding power. The track in the vicinity of this accident was poorly ballasted and was unsafe for the passage of trains at ordinary speed. This derailment occurred on straight track while the train was running about 20 miles per hour."

The report says that "the most disturbing and perplexing" feature in the problem of accident prevention is the large proportion of train accidents caused by dereliction of duty by the employes involved. The commission believes that as a rule there are no men that have a keener appreciation of their responsibilities than railroad trainmen and engineers," and yet it is pointed out that 63 per cent of the whole number of accidents investigated were caused by mistakes on the part of employes.

**Employes Not Responsible.**  
"There is a disposition in some quarters," continues the report, "to charge these lamentable errors to failure of discipline and to hold employes wholly responsible for such failure. This is a superficial view which contains no promise of effective remedy. A remarkable increase in the speed and weight of trains within recent years, and the crowding of tracks and terminals caused by the movement of an enormously enlarged volume of traffic, have greatly increased the duties and responsibilities of train service employes and multiplied the chances of error on their part. Notwithstanding these added duties and responsibilities, which the conditions of modern railroading have imposed upon employes, the method of discipline and regulations calculated to insure safety in train operation have remained practically unchanged.

"To prevent railroad collisions ade-

quate measures must be taken, first, to reduce the chances of human error to a minimum, and second to neutralize the effects of such error when it occurs. The recommendations previously made by the commission for legislation requiring the standardization of operating rules and the use of the clock system were designed to reduce the probability of mistakes by employes, and those recommendations are once more presented for consideration of the congress. Uniformity and consistency in operating rules are necessary to secure safety, and it is not probable that a satisfactory code which will meet the demands of modern operating conditions can be secured without appropriate action by the federal government."

### Speed is a Factor.

The commission points out that excessive speed has been an important factor in many train accidents, and that "conditions of safe operation are often ignored in the effort to bring fast trains in on time. This is a bad practice, for which the travelling public is largely responsible, and it should be discontinued. Adequate measures should be taken to compel low speed wherever conditions require it whether schedules are maintained or not."

The total number of casualties on steam roads during the year ended June 30, was 180,123, of which 16,585 were persons killed and 169,538 injured. These figures indicate an increase over the previous year of 189 killed and 19,379 injured. Of the total number of casualties, 400 railway employes were killed and 52,363 injured through "industrial accidents"—happenings incidental to railroad business, but not due to the operation of which he had suffered at intervals for years, there were minor ailments which depressed him.

Having invited a shooting party to West Park, where there had been many gatherings since Mr. Reid became ambassador, he called in Sir William Osler, who examined him and declared there was nothing wrong. The ambassador was cheered by this report and with his wife joined his guests at his country house. He returned to Dorchester House on Dec. 2 and his final illness began the next day.

### Condition Not Realized.

Mr. Reid continued to carry on his correspondence and signed official documents as late as Wednesday. His family and household did not realize that he was in any danger and, although at times he showed much depression, it was attributed to the gloomy weather. The doctors were optimistic, but advised him to remain indoors, and he did not join the party at West Park, which he had invited to meet the Prince and Princess of Teck last week-end.

Even in the last week several small luncheons, which the ambassador and Mrs. Reid were accustomed to give to American visitors, had been arranged, just before his condition became serious. These were cancelled when he was attacked with asthma Wednesday. On Thursday the attacks became more severe and Sir Thomas Barlow was summoned in consultation and Dr. Rowlands was installed in the house to be in constant attendance.

The attack became worse on Friday and for a time it was believed the ambassador could not survive the night. He was greatly exhausted, but the physicians got the paroxysms under control and later held out hope for his recovery. Mr. Reid, however, did not regain his strength and on Sunday morning it was seen that he was sinking. Mrs. Reid and Mrs. Ward, who had been in constant attendance since his condition became serious, were summoned. He soon lapsed into unconsciousness and lay quietly until the end.

### Went to London in 1905.

Whiteley Reid, who came to England in 1905, spent some busy years here. The diplomatic duties are not so heavy in London as at some posts, but social life of the American ambassador is much in demand and more frequently called upon to deliver speeches and addresses than the other ambassadors.

Mr. Reid gave much time to his addresses, particularly those delivered at the university, and was at his work long before other men in his position would be at rest. He dictated to his secretary or wrote for several hours before going to the embassy, where he was regular in attendance until illness overtook him, and there spent another three hours receiving visitors and attending to official correspondence. There were invariably engagements, entertainments for the evening, which took up his time.

He was a member of several big clubs. These he seldom visited, although a regular attendant at the meetings of the Roxborough, club of "bookmakers" and the Titmarsh, a Thackeray club.

Until the last he was active in literary pursuits. One of the reasons he desired to give up the ambassadorship was that he might be enabled to write his memoirs, for which he had a mass of material, and to which his friends continually asked him to give his time.

One of the ambassador's last letters was written Dec. 6 to Robert Donald, editor of the Daily Chronicle, and a member of the Anglo-American peace centenary commission. It began:

"I am finding once more this week that there is never a convenient moment for being ill, but nothing has troubled me so much since the breakdown three or four weeks ago that followed my overwork in the autumn and early winter, as to learn that the physicians would not consent to my attending the public meeting at the Mansion House to help inaugurate your movement for celebrating the hundredth anniversary of peace between our two countries. I especially wish to be present, because I regard this as an event of enormous importance, and I think that failure to give it such a celebration as should challenge the attention of the whole world would be a crime."

After congratulating Mr. Donald on his work and writings in behalf of the celebration, the letter continued:

"If I dare to promise to be present at the lord mayor's meeting I would, and if by the time it comes I can escape from the thralldom of the physicians I surely shall be."

"In the meantime I hope that the work is in as promising a state in my own country as here. I am sure that the centenary could not have come at a moment more hopeful for the peace of the world."

Condolences From King.  
Almost immediately the king sent his equerry, Sir Henry Legge, to express the condolences of himself and the queen. During the afternoon messages conveying the warmest sympathies were received from the queen mother, Alexandria, and from other members of the royal family, from court officers, members of the government and of the various embassies and legations, while many called at the embassy.

A wireless message was sent to Ogden Reid, son of the ambassador, who left New York Saturday in the hope of reaching his father's bedside before death.

The body will be sent home and probably will be interred in Sleepy Hollow, but the details will not be decided until some communication is received from Ogden Reid and it is learned what action the British government may desire to take. Mrs. Reid hopes to sail on Saturday next, should her son reach London in time to accompany her, but in all probability the government will place a warship at the disposal of the family for the transportation of the body to the United States.

Doubtless there will be a memorial

service in one of the great cathedrals in London, in addition to the services in some small chapel for members of the family, and the staff of the embassy.

### Ill Since February.

While Mr. Reid's condition has been serious only since Thursday, and he had been confined to the house but a fortnight, his illness really dates from his return from New York last February after his visit there for the purpose of entertaining the Duke and Duchess of Connaught. On the voyage he contracted a cold and found great difficulty in shaking it off. When he did, he was feeble. His friends noted a great change. Still he insisted upon going to the embassy every day and carrying on his heavy correspondence both there and at home.

However, Mr. Reid made a considerable recovery and during the London season, May, June and July, was active, and with Mrs. Reid gave the usual entertainments for which they had made Dorchester House famous. While they were not on such a large scale as some previous entertainments, they proved a strain on his strength. During August Mr. Reid rested at a health resort.

In September he made a hurried trip to the United States and presided at the dedication of the new education building at Albany. He returned to England somewhat fatigued, but no anxiety was felt over his condition. However, on Oct. 31, he went to Wales and delivered an address on Thomas Jefferson at the University college, and from that time suffered from cold. Although he had not complained of throat trouble, he could not speak at intervals for years, there were minor ailments which depressed him.

### Routine Work of Commission.

Elaborate details are given in the report of the routine work of the commission during the year. Generally, it shows a large increase. The number of formal complaints filed was 755, a decrease of 126, as compared with the previous year; 778 cases were disposed of, an increase of 126. The commission conducted 114 hearings, as compared with 93 the previous year and took 125 pages of testimony.

The investigation of rates and practices of express companies, which the report says, "is probably the most important piece of work ever done by the commission" was practically concluded during the year. "As a result," says the commission, "it appeared that many of the practices of express companies were utterly inexcusable, that their methods were archaic and their rates discriminatory and unreasonable. The report recommended a complete revolution and renovation in the methods and rates of express companies."

Similar investigations, it is indicated, are in progress of substitution of tonnage in transit, allowances to terminal roads, weighing of freight, issuing of rates, bills of lading, private cars, rates on anthracite coal and other important transportation matters.

Through evidence furnished by the division of inquiry, 33 indictments were returned for offenses against the act to regulate commerce, 24 against carriers, 54 against shippers or passengers, and five against shippers and carriers jointly. Sixty-one prosecutions were concluded, the total amount of fines assessed being \$344,429.

The commission, in conclusion, renews its recommendations for congressional legislation providing for a physical valuation of railroads, a uniform classification, a more explicit definition of the authority of the commission over interstate and telephone lines, and control over railway capitalization. The report indicates the belief of the commission that additional legislation to insure safety of railway travel may be necessary, but on that subject the commission is not prepared yet to make a definite recommendation.

At our watch work absolutely guaranteed.  
CON W. HESSE, Jeweler, Adv.

# WHITELAW REID

(Continued from First Page.)

Dorchester House continually since the ambassador's condition became serious, notified the staff of the embassy when the patient began to sink and when death came he sent word to the king and queen at Buckingham palace, the queen's mother, Alexandria, at Sandringham, and the officials of the court.

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# FAST EXHIBITION GIVEN BY BOXERS

## Shrader and Belshaw Spar at Natatorium—Good Match Promised.

Boxing fans witnessed an excellent work out yesterday afternoon at the Natatorium, when Shrader and Belshaw sparred lightly for their benefit. Both boys look very fast. They also made an excellent impression Saturday night before the electrical workers, when they went on for about hours. Mickey Morton, the local promoter, believes that he has matched two of the fastest youths in the history of the local ring, and that fans will be given not only the best welterweight go that has been seen in the intermountain country, but it will open the avenue for better ones.

Many of the fans want to see the next legislature pass a measure calling for the creation of a boxing commission, so that in the future the fistic art in this state can be conducted along more modern lines, and will place it higher as a sport in the mind of the public. They expect to work to that end, and if a state commission cannot be applied to secure one that can be applied to cities in the state.

The Shrader-Belshaw go is scheduled to go on Friday evening of this week at Forest park, and it is believed there will be a packed house. The preliminaries have not as yet been arranged, but will be settled this week, together with the selection of the third man who will handle the main go.

# Young Express Messenger Was Real Holdup

(Continued from First Page.)

med injury so successfully that not until yesterday was he suspected. Then he was brought back here and was subjected to the "third degree" for five hours by railroad and express detectives.

Breaking down finally, Hamby threw his hands over his head and sobbed out: "Oh, I did it myself."

Then he told where the money was buried, how he had conceived the plan of the robbery and how he had carried it out.

In his confession, Marvis shouldered the theft, declaring that though Melvin had made the bags of gold when he had thrown them from the train and buried them, the younger lad did everything under instructions.

"I knew my car was to carry a heavy shipment of gold to the First National bank of Taft about the tenth of the month," said Hamby. "So I posted Melvin at Kern Junction with instructions to have a lantern and shovel. As we passed Kern Junction, three miles from Bakersfield, I heaved off the bags of gold.

"Then I bumped my head against a trunk to make the people believe I had been hit there by a bandit, and just before the train pulled into Taft I bound myself hand and foot and rooted my head under a pile of mail sacks. I was lying like that when railroad men and a constable at Taft came into my car."

The two boys agreed that they would let the money lie buried until the excitement had subsided and the search that was instituted by county and railroad officials had been given up.

Hamby is 22 years of age. He had been an express messenger on the Sunset Western run for nearly a year.

# TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY.

FOR SALE—Fresh Jersey cow. Price \$100. Call 1518 N. 14th. D22

FOR SALE—Large pair of mares, wagon and harness. 2517 Heron. D22

FOR RENT—5-room modern house, good location. \$12.50 per month. Phone 2137 W. D22

FOR RENT—Furnished small house at 906 Eastman, \$10.00 per month. Vacant on the 15th. D18

FOR RENT—2 furnished housekeeping rooms, natural hot water heat. Enquire 824 Main. D17

FOR RENT—Nicely furnished 5-room flat, close in. Apply 1014 W. Jefferson. Phone 1046 W. D22

FOR TRADE—Improved forty acres near Boise. Want Boise home or vacant lots. Phone 192. D16

FOR RENT—Furnished sleeping room, private entrance, \$2 per week. Call 212 So. 11th, between Grove and Front. D22

LOST—Since last Friday, pointer dog, medium sized, liver and white collar, name Bob. Return to 805 Warm Springs Ave. and receive reward. D16

FOR SALE—Two lots on Main street of Ontario, Ore.; cement walk; close in to business section. Price \$700 for the pair. Crummett & Jones, Ontario, Ore. D19c

FOR SALE—Heating stove—Coles Hot Blast, large size, good as new; baker's portable stand oven, capacity, 300 to 500 loaves. The Home Bakery-Cafeteria, 710 Idaho St. D22

FOR TRADE—A good span of horses, weight 2500, harness and wagon. Want good little home in northwest part of town. Could pay some cash. What have you? Box 74 Capital News. D16c

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# HARD WORK AHEAD FOR HIGH SCHOOL

## Local Squad Will Be Kept Busy Preparing for Game.

Coach Worthwaine of the Boise high school football team is not saying very much regarding the prospects of his team with the Wendell-Phillips high school eleven of Chicago, but it is evident from his grim attitude that if Boise wants to make even a good showing, to say nothing of winning, the members of the local squad will have to get busy and train to the limit. Every afternoon the team is out on the gridiron working, but that the players do not realize the strength of the team they are to meet is said to be evident. Boise has already won some remarkable victories, but the local moolskin wearers will meet the fastest high school team in the country when they bump up against Chicago.

The big game is scheduled for Christmas afternoon. It will be the best exhibition of its kind, probably, ever staged in Boise. Fans here believe that Boise has more than a chance to win, and that if the players show the class they did against Salt Lake, the Chicago eleven will find it hard work keeping Boise from going over their goal line.

The fact that the Wendell-Phillips high is virtually a college team, due to the fact it draws from an attendance much larger than many colleges in the middle west, makes the visitors to be feared in the big game Christmas.

# Campbell's Fruit House

## SEND HOME A BOX OF CHOICE APPLES

White Winter Pearmain, Grimes' Golden, Bellflower, Northern Spy, Roman Beauties.

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