

WOULD RESTRICT ORIENTAL LABOR

Vernon Farmers Will Ask Government to Prevent Aliens Acquiring Title to Lands.

VERNON, B. C., Jan. 10.—The questions of alien labor and Oriental ownership of land, which have been to the forefront in meetings of the Okanagan farmers during the past year, were dealt with by the Vernon Farmers' Institute in a resolution which declared that the provincial government should be asked "to make every effort in its power to have such laws enacted as will forever debar Orientals from acquiring title to agricultural lands within the province of British Columbia."

The resolution put forth the contention that Oriental ownership of farm lands was detrimental to the interests of the province, the Dominion and the British Empire.

Want White Control.

The resolution proceeded to emphasize the "great importance of the vegetable industry in this section," and realizing the shortage of labor they urged "all ranchmen of this valley to keep control of the raising and shipping of all ranch products until sold or disposed of, and if Oriental labor is necessary in the production of said crops, that said labor be paid for by day's wages or a share in the crop proceeds." The institute decided that farmers should use every means in their power "to keep our land, our products and the business interests of the valley in the hands of the white race."

The provincial department of agriculture was asked to take into consideration the establishment of a model farm and agricultural school in the Okanagan Valley.