

NOTES FROM THE PROVINCES

Kootenay Valley, B. C.

Edgar M. Dynes

November was marked by the re-organization of the Kootenay Fruit Growers' Association. The shipping returns for the present season have not been very satisfactory and as a consequence the old management resigned. New methods will be adopted in future.

Fruit growers generally are agitating for an experimental fruit farm. Such a station would be of great assistance to the growers of the district in determining what varieties are the most valuable from a commercial standpoint.

Representatives of nursery firms report a record business. One home nursery reports being sold out of some varieties already, although they had a heavy stock. There has not been a large amount of fall planting but the indications are that next spring the Kootenay will again break all previous records in the number of trees planted.

The sale of government lands at Creston was most successful from every standpoint. The prices ruling were high, reaching \$300 an acre in one instance. Several blocks turned over at \$150 while, in every instance, the price obtained was 300 per cent. above the upset price. A most striking feature about the sale was the fact that two-thirds of the sales were made to local Creston men who have been on the ground for

some time and who know just what the land can be made to produce. Creston strawberry growers have been particularly successful, as averages of as high as \$1,000 an acre have been obtained.

The Doukoboors are making substantial progress on their colony at Waterloo and will have a sawmill running very soon. During the winter they will cut lumber for use in building houses and in the spring will move their families from Saskatchewan. They state that they are well satisfied with Kootenay and that other colonies will be brought out in the future.

Montreal

E. H. Wartman, Dominion Fruit Inspector

This sixteenth day of November we find cars of apples arriving from Ontario free from frost,—unusual so late in season. In fact, I have not seen a frozen apple in the hundreds of barrels I have examined so far. This must be a pleasant thought to the shippers.

The apples going forward in standard boxes put up by the co-operative packing associations are very satisfactory. The breakage in barrels this season has been very small, due to the strong eight-hoop barrels which are on the increase.

Wholesalers have made sales of strictly No. 1 Spys at \$5, which leaves a good mar-

gin. Of course, the Spy is the great local apple of our Dominion in its season.

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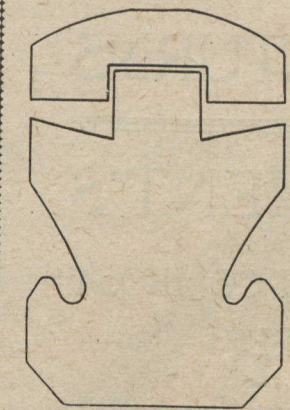
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