

sorts, a heavy clay loam and a light, friable but fertile loam, both productive and readily tilled. The timber growth in most cases is very light in the bottoms and clearing does not entail any heavy work. The climate is all that can be desired and it has been demonstrated that for 110 miles up the river tomatoes, melons, corn, beans, in fact all the tender crops can be grown to perfection. Actual experience has shown that all the hardy fruits, apples, plums, cherries, pears and small fruits thrive and bear luxurious crops. There are many tributary valleys which offer opportunities quite as good as those to be found in the North Thompson River Valley, in fact some of the smaller ones are filled from river to head with prosperous farms and homesteads. The transportation facilities are even now being extended by the government and will be kept in line with increased settlement in the valley. In other parts of the district the lands available for homesteading are small in area and widely scattered but in the North Thompson country there is room for thousands of prosperous and contented settlers engaged in diversified farming in a congenial climate and amidst attractive surroundings.

### Fruit Growing

**F**RUIT growing is as yet one of the infant industries in the Province of British Columbia but it bids fair in time to rival mining, lumbering or stockraising for the first position. Today southern British Columbia is acknowledged to be the finest fruit growing country on the continent and in southern British Columbia no other district is more peculiarly adapted to the success of this industry than is the one of which Kamloops is the centre. The South Thompson River Valley, The North Thompson River Valley, and all the smaller valleys in the Kamloops district will not only produce fruit in abundance but the quality of the product is equal to any and superior to most. The different varieties which are successfully cultivated here will prove, in competition with those produced elsewhere, to be of better colour, flavor and size. Apples, pears, plums, and cherries will mature in any part of the district, while in nearly all parts peaches, grapes, apricots and nectarines are prolific bearers. This is especially true of the South Thompson Valley, where irrigation is necessary. Here there are thousands of acres of bench lands in every way suited for fruit growing on a commercial scale and although the question of irrigation must be considered and the supply of water for this purpose is limited if gravity systems alone are looked to, pumping by means of gas engines can be resorted to in nearly all cases with profit and with no uncertainty as to the supply. The suitable benches are as a general rule no higher than 100 feet above the level of the river and in many cases much less. Small holdings of from five to twenty acres are quite sufficient in size for commercial fruit growing and if the intending settler does not care to take up the unirrigated tracts, obtaining his



**T**HE Hudson's Bay Company, "The Great Traders of the Great West," have been established in Kamloops since 1813, when the first fort was erected just across the river from the present town and where now is situated the residential part of "Fruitland." When first established the post was known as Fort Thompson, but the name Fort Kamloops was adopted from the Indian one meaning "the place of meeting waters." Although the name of the fort has changed and nothing remains of the old post but its memory the business then established has been continuously in existence, growing with the growth of the country, keeping pace with its requirements and earning for itself a reputation for fair dealing which is enviable in these days of keen competition. The first little fort with its stockade and corralls was replaced by newer and larger buildings in 1863, this post being erected on the south side of the river and opposite the former stockade, and in 1885 when the march of progress had made a further change advisable a new building was erected and occupied until 1894 when the Company's stores were moved to the present modern and commodious building. Here the Company carries a large and well assorted stock of the very best quality of staple and fancy dry goods, clothing, boots and shoes, novelties, groceries and provisions, liquors and cigars. Everything found in this stock is of the best as the rule of the Company's stores has always demanded. Drawing as they do from the markets of the world and buying in quantities which the other retailers cannot buy in, they are in a position to ensure quality at the lowest figures possible. Amongst their special lines may be mentioned:

### H. B. Point Blankets the Standard of the West

**T**HESE blankets were used by the pioneers in the early days. The wise prospector always includes them in his outfit now because they are made specially for the H. B. Company to suit the requirements of this country.

**O**UR FLOUR stands in a class by itself. We Make it, Sell and recommend it. We have it for all household purposes and sell it from \$1.50 to \$1.75 per 50 lb. sack.