

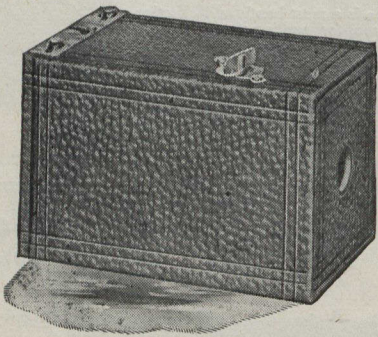
Kootenay Valley, B. C.**Edgar W. Dynes**

A syndicate composed of a number of fruit growers in the vicinity of Nelson have issued a statement with regard to their

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operations for the past year. Their expenses of organization were only five per cent. and the returns received from shipments of strawberries and other small fruits were very satisfactory. The net average returns on strawberries were \$2.15 a crate of 24 boxes and the raspberries realized \$2.65. Cherries brought from ten to twelve cents a pound according to the way the fruit was packed.

Creston fruit growers propose to erect a large warehouse near the railway station for the purpose of storing fruit. It is expected that this district will ship at least a dozen car loads of fruit next year.

At a meeting of the Creston fruit growers an interesting discussion took place with regard to the formation of a provincial fruit growers' information bureau. The idea seems to be to have a central bureau with which fruit districts shall be in constant communication during the shipping season. It is also suggested that this bureau keep in touch with the great fruit market centres on the prairie in order that too much fruit may not be sent to one point and too little to another. It has been suggested that the

government undertake the expense of operating such a bureau.

Some reference was also made to poor packing methods. While in some instances there were individual growers whose packing methods were all that could be desired the great majority still used a very antiquated and slovenly style of packing. It was agreed that a great deal of further education was necessary along these lines.

Mr. R. M. Winslow, head of the provincial horticultural department, made a trip through Kootenay in November on a trip of inspection. Mr. Winslow has been recently appointed to the position he occupies and this was his first official trip through this part of the province. He was particularly struck with the progress and apparent prosperity of the Doukhobor colony at Waterloo. A \$25,000 irrigation system has just been installed on their colony. It will be so situated as to irrigate all their tract of 2,900 acres. The fruit trees which they planted last spring are making a very satisfactory growth.

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