

citrons, tomatoes and several varieties of squash and corn. An inspection of any of the gardens of the district will at once convince the purchaser that the conditions must be exceptionally favorable to produce such a luxuriant growth of food plants and flowers as are observable here.

Markets

A ready local market for all the products the pioneers of the settlement can supply for some years to come will be found right at home, the consumers being the hands of lumber companies; the many men employed by our Company in the construction of our irrigation works; those employed on the construction of the Kootenay Central Railway, which is fast approaching the boundaries of the lands belonging to the Columbia Valley Irrigated Fruit Lands, Limited; the army of laborers employed by the government in the construction and repairing of the many roads; to say nothing of the anticipated development of some of the rich mining properties in the immediate neighborhood. In addition to the above demand there will be that which will be required during the early months of their visitation by the many settlers whom good prospects and an earnest campaign will bring to this chosen part. During the tourist season the number of strangers who will make this valley their tramping ground will be daily increasing and must have their demands supplied locally.

In addition to the local market, which insures immediate success to the grower there is the practically unlimited demand of the prairies, *and it is well to note that our valley is some hundreds of miles nearer these consumers than any other district capable of duplicating our products.* Fruit, vegetables, poultry, etc., can, with the completion of the Kootenay Central Railway, be placed on the train at night and be in the city of Calgary the next morning. This rapidly growing city of fifty thousand people and the province of Alberta generally, are largely dependent upon outside sources for the supplies mentioned, and our comparatively close proximity to this territory gives us great advantages as compared with other producing districts in British Columbia.

In regard to local market prices it might be a guide to give some of those paid during the season just closed, 1910-1911. Potatoes sold for as high as four cents a pound or two dollars and forty cents per bushel, baled hay commanded forty dollars per ton at the stack; wheat four and a half cents per pound, oats three and a half cents for the same weight at point of delivery; dressed beef from nine to ten cents in the carcass; dressed pork fifteen cents per pound; fresh eggs fifty to seventy cents per dozen; onions