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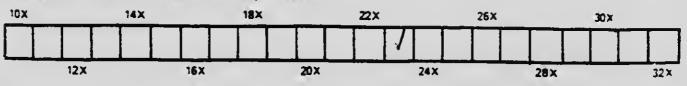
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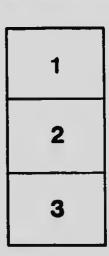
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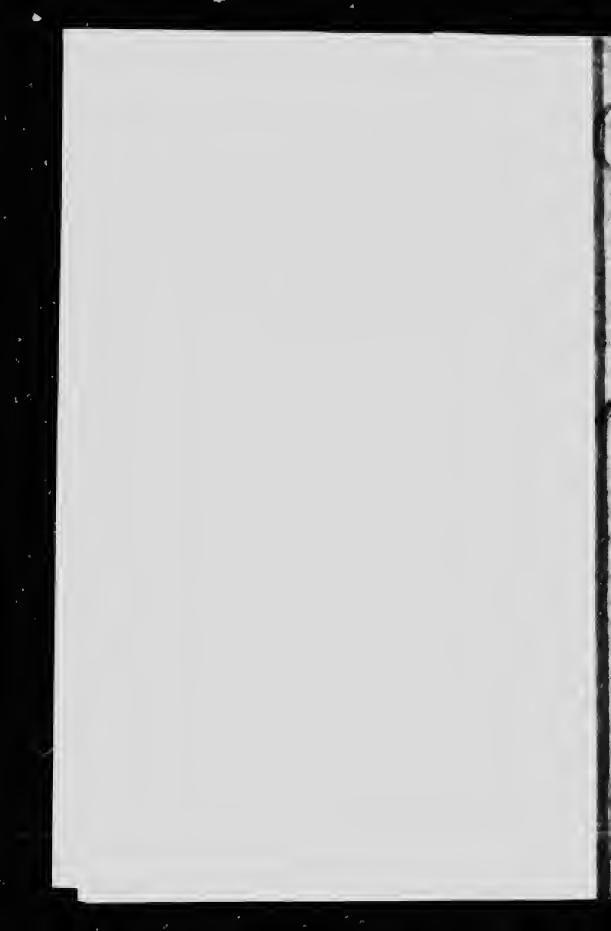
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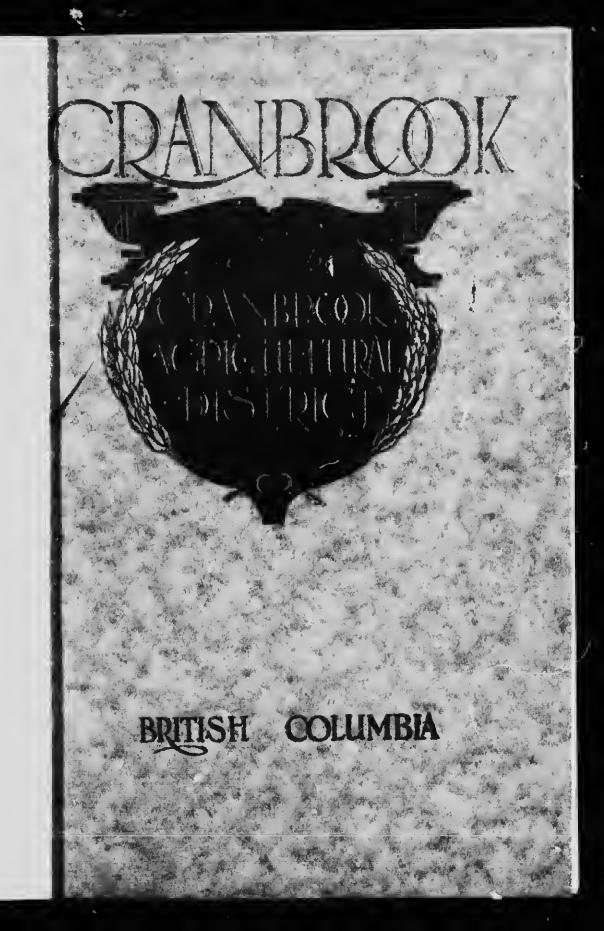




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# CRANBROOK

AND THE CRANBROOK AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT, BRITISH COLUMBIA



ISSUED BY THE BOARD OF TRADE, CRANBROOK, B.C. 1912.



# Cranbrook and District

HE valley of the Kootenay River in the Cranbrook District lies between the Rocky Mountains to the east and the Selkirks on the West, and has a width varying from 10 to 20 miles. It extends northerly from the International boundary, a distance of about 95 miles.

Along the Kootenay River there are large areas of bottom lands quite flat and covered to a varying extent with brush and small

S ANGATES

The Everlasting Hills

timber. The soil of these bottom lands is of rich alluvial character, and on account of the abundance of water is excellently suited for hay and other farm products.

From the flats the land rises in a series of benches which finally nerge in the foot hills, and these benches are intersected by mounain streams running into the Kootenay. The general character of he bench land is of park variety, containing much open prairie, and aturally adaptable to mixed farming.

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While irrigation is not in all cases necessary, the numerous mountain streams which intersect the bench lands insure sufficient water where needed: Several irrigation systems supplying large tracts of land are either in operation, process of construction or in contemplation.

The soil on the bench lands is dark to sandy loam, rich in humus, usually with clay sub-soil.

Until recently the development of the timber resources—which still are enormously rich—occupied attention to the exclusion of agricultural pursuits, and therefore in many cases farms have not



The Forests afford the best assurance for Industrial Development

been sufficiently developed to reach their maximum of productiveness, but it has been satisfactorily demonstrated that all the ordinary field crops, grains, vegetables, and fruits of the very best quality, can be successfully grown. Three or four crops of alfalfa to a season are not uncommon, and timothy and other fodder crops yield large returns.

It is also established from experiments that beyond question the valley is well adapted to fruit growing. Apples, plums, pears,

Page Seven



prunes, cherries and small fruits mature in abundance. In each case regard should be had to the altitude and other conditions when deciding upon the uses to which the land is to be put.

The clearing of the land, and the much more active and intelligent development which has begun to take place has given a great stimulus in the last couple of years to agriculture, and land values



Wycliffe, B.C.-There are twenty-five lumber manufactories in the district

have begun to rise although they are yet at an almost nominal figure.

Spring opens up about the middle of March, with beautiful sunny weather, the cold leaves the open land about this time, and hangs a little longer in the timber. Ploughing can be commenced between March 15 and April 1.

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#### DISTRICT AND CRANBROOK

There is a sufficient precipitation of moisture, from 18 10 20 inches of rainfall per annum, and a snowfall of from t to 3 feet. In summer the thermometer rises as high as 80 or 90 degrees in the shade. The hot days of July and August are usually tempered by a gentle breeze which takes the exhaustion out of prolonged labor and the nights are comparatively cool. At times in the winter there are cold spells where the mercury falls below zero, but these are of short duration.

These unique conditions, combined with the scenic grandeur. give an almost indescribable charta to life, enabling one to live out-



Potatoes! What do you know about that?

doors under conditions almost ideal. Acres of wild sunflowers and other plants give bright splashes of color on the mountain side, while the floral beauty of the old world can be easily reproduced. Nowhere can the physical and mental characteristics of the human race be developed under more favorable circumstances.

Tracts of land may be acquired of any size desired.

A perusal of the letters from farmers and others which are quoted will be of interest to those seeing a location where success-

Page Eleven



ful farming is assured by a bill feal climate, excellent transportation facilities, congenial surroundings, couples with an adaptable soil and large, convenient and permanent markets.

Professor Thomas A. Sharpe, Superintendent Dominion Experimental Farm, Agassiz, B.C., says.

"The soil of the Columbia-Kootenay Valley is excellent,



A fascinating resort for the Sportsman and the Tourist

"needing only water and tilling to make it produce fine "crops of roots, potatoes, grains, hay and vegetables, as "well as the hardier fruits. As fine apples can be grown "there as are grown, if plather will select suitable vari-"eties and plant on beneding low places which

**Page Thirteen** 



"are often subjected to summer frosts. I would have no "hesitation in planting fruit-trees of hardy apples, pears, "plums, and cherries in the full expectation of making a "commercial success."

Copy of letter from A. Hodgson, Raucher, Marysville: "The Secretary, The Board of Trade, Cranbrook, B.C.



"As fine apples can be grown here as are grown." -Prof. Sharpe

"Dear Sir:--I am in receipt of your letter of the 18th "inst, with regard to my experiences in farming in the "Kootenays.

"I might say that my land lies about three miles west "of Marysville on the St. Mary's river. I have been work-"ing it for about eight years and have found that it is well "adapted for mixed farming. I have had good success

B

Page Fifteen



"with small fruits and have found the land well snited for "hay and grain, my own specialty has been strawberries. "I have been growing strawberries for about four years, "and have not experienced a failure in that time.

"I have netted on an average from \$700 to \$800 per "acre, and have found an excellent home market for all



A few Cranbrook Winners

"the berries I can raise, my herries usually come in a trifle "later than other districts and I generally have berries to "sell after the crop is done elsewhere.

"I have also good success with vegetables and have "had no trouble to market all 1 could raise at top market "price.

"A. Hondson,"

**Page Seventeen** 



Copy of letter from Peter Lund, Wardner, B.C., Managing Director Crow's Nest Pass Lumber Co., Limited, etc., etc., and owner of large quantities of agricultural land in the District:

"The Secretary, The Board of Trade, Cranbrook, B.C.

"In reply to your inquiry requesting my views on the agriculture possibilities in South East Kootenay, B.C., I "wish to state that I have resided in this District for 13



A Business Thoroughfare of To-morrow

"years, and have been a close observer of its growth and "development.

"I consider that both climate and soils in this District "are highly adapted for the production of all kinds of "garden products, hay and coarse grains; and many of the "hardy varieties of fruit trees thrive and produce "abundantly; and, with a higher state of cultivation and "proper and scientific methods adapted in fruit culture,

**Page Nineteen** 



"especially in choosing the variety of shrubs and trees, "seeds, etc., suitable to the soils, altitude and climate, I "am confident that the Kootenay Valley and localities "adjacent thereto will produce highly satisfactory results.

"As a result of my observations and experiments I "have during the past two years acquired about 15,000 "acres of land in the District, and have personally estab-"lished experiment stations at Wardner, B.C., in the Koot-"enay Valley, at an altitude of 2,400 feet where 200 acres "are now under cultivation and at Marysville, B.C., in "the St. Mary's District, at an altitude of 3,000 feet where "150 acres is now in crop. Sufficient snow and rainfall "nsually occurs in this District to admit abundant crops, "being produced without irrigation, where proper cultiva-"tion is practiced, and care taken to conserve the natural "moisture. Water for the irrigation of all tillable lands "in the District is, however, available, and can be obtained "with proper development.

"During 1910 I raised 200 tons of vegetables and "potatoes from 19 acres of land at my Wardner farm, one "half of which was irrigated, and on the balance ordinary "dry farming methods were used, with scarcely any "appreciable difference in the yield of the two tracts.

"I cheerfully invite any intending settlers to inspect "my farming operations at Wardner and Marysville farms. "What is being done there can also be done on other lands "throughout the District.

"Yours truly,

P. LUND."

Copy of letter from John Bennett, farmer, St. Mary's Prairie: "The Secretary, The Board of Trade, Cranbrook, B.C.

"Dear Sir:

A Likely-looking Crop of Vegetables

"Your letter to hand asking what my experience had "been in farming in the Kootenay.

Page Twenty-one

# THE CITY R

#### The Commercial and Induce of

"I filed on the section of land I am now working "about 9 years ago. The soil is a good clay loam, and "well snited for mixed farming. As I have a large area "of pasture land and long summer season I have found "dairying very profitable, there being an excellent home "market for these products. All grain crops do well, par-"ticularly winter wheat and rye. Timothy hay is also an "excellent crop, and I can always secure from \$18.00 to "\$30.00 per ton for this kind of hay right at my barns. "I have also done well with small fruits. I set out two "or tree rows of currant bushes about 5 years ago and "have got a bumper crop every year since, also set out a "few apple trees about the same time and which are just "now nicely coming into bearing. The trees are very "healthy looking as are also some plum trees which were "set out more recently.

"Yours very truly,

"John Bennett."

Page Twenty-Two

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# RANBROOK

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## d Industrie of the Cranbrook District

Copy of letter from Herbert H. McChire, farmer, of Cranbrook, B.C.:

"President Board of Trade.

'Dear Sir:

"In respect to your request re our experience since "coming to Cranbrook, I would say that after having "looked over considerable of the fruit growing sections of "the province we came to the conclusion that Cranbrook "suited us better than anywhere else,

"In the first place we have here much more nice level "workable land than in most places, then clearing can be "done quite cheaply. I have had no trouble to get land "ready for the plow at \$56.00 per acre. The soil is of the "very best quality and there is such a depth of it that with "proper cultivation there is no need for irrigation.

"We have set out about eight acres of apple trees "and are well pleased with the way they have done. We "have several acres of strawberries which promise to be "a splendid crop. All kinds of grain do well, but I think

**Page Twenty-Three** 



"that alfalfa will be one of the best paying crops. I put "in 50 acres this spring and it is looking fine.

"If you wish a proof as to the desirableness of our "climate would say that we gathered several sacks of "good sound potatoes this spring which had been in the "ground all winter.

"Yours truly,

"Herbert H. McClure,"

Extracts from the report of Provincial Government Inspector, Middleton:

"Three hundred thonsand acres of this area is admir-"ably suited to general agriculture and the greater portion "of this latter area, with proper attention will prove to be excellent fruit lands. We visited most of the prom-"inent ranches and ranchers of the section, noting prin-"cipally the condition of the orchards as to growth, injury "caused by frosts, and general conditions of the trees as "to vitality, and the characters and nature of the soil.

"I found where fruit trees had been planted, that "in the majority of places, the trees were in good shape "and shewing excellent prospects for a full crop of fruit "this year. This was particularly marked in the hardier "varieties of apples.

"From Skookumelnick we retraced our steps back to "Wasa and then south on the west side of the Kootenay "river through the Cherry Creek section, and St. Mary's "Prairie, a territory with much cultivable land. St. Mary's "prairie section consists of a vast area of level or slightly "rolling lands. The soil here is a dark loam to a sandy "loam rich in humus. The class of soil which this section

Page Twenty-Five



"possesses, with irrigation when required, should prove "one of the best sections for fruit growing and nuxed "farming in the District.

"Adjoining this section on the St. Mary's river at "the St. Engene Mission the pioneer orchard of the dis-"trict is located, having been planted for fifteen or more "years. Here I found the fruit trees doing well, and well "laden with fruit blossoms. A little winter injury was "noticeable, probably due to the severe winter of 1008-0, "but considering the amount of injury done during that "winter, in other parts of the province, we might assume "that this section is no less favorably adapted to the eul-"ture of fruit, than are many other sections of the Pro-"vince.

"In the immediate vicinity of Cranbrook, there are "immerous large flats and benches, with good soils vary-"ing from a dark muck in the lower flats to a clay loam, "and in some places a sandy loam. A few orchards have "been planted in this neighborhood, and give evidence to "show that here may be grown at least the hardier varie-"ties of apples and pears.

"Generally speaking the whole District due to the "rich soil and large area, is admirably adapted to mixed "farming and stock-raising. I should suggest the encour-"agement of general agriculture with fruit-growing as "one of the main lines.

"The local markets are very large and very encourag-"ing and the transportation facilities remarkably good "throughout the District. The low prices at which the "land may be bought for (\$5,00-\$35,00 per acre) is very "inducive to settlement. This along with the easy availa-"bility of the land as little or no clearing is necessary, the "District lends itself well to general agriculture.

"The altitude of the District varies from 2,600 feet "to 3,000 feet above sea level. The precipitation varies "from 12 to 18 inches annually. Although the soil for

Page Twenty-Seven



"the most part is of a very retentive nature, it will be "nece sary to have irrigation during certain years. This "is very easily procured as the numerons large mountain "streams are plentiful, so that very economical gravity "systems could be installed.

"The District is a large one and the same local varia-"tions which exist in other parts of the Province are well "illustrated here."

The fullest information on all matters relating to agriculture in the Province is contained in the British Columbia Government's official bulletin No. 26, obtainable from the King's Printer, Victoria, B.C.

#### DEMONSTRATION ORCHARD

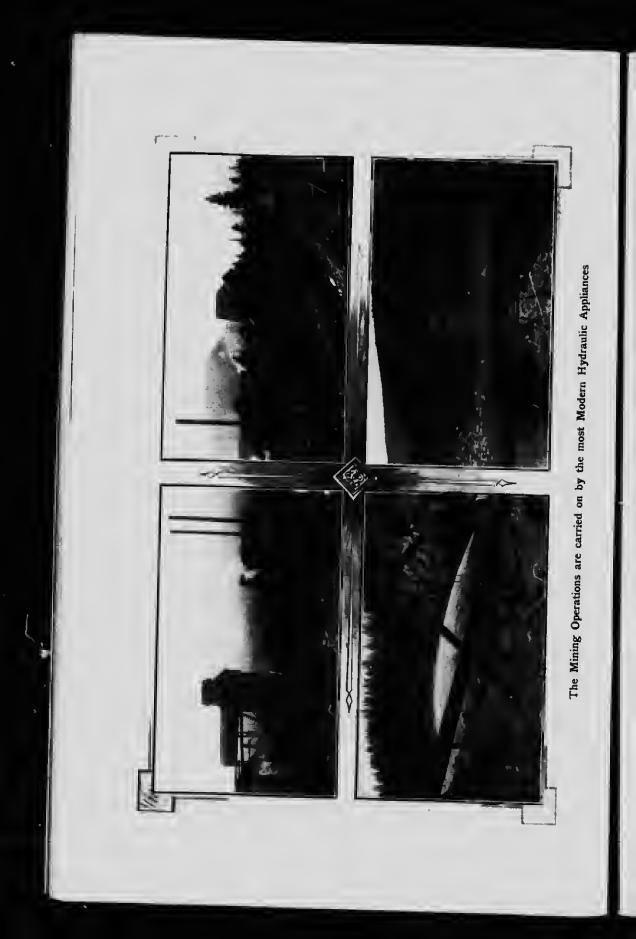
The Provincial Government has established an experimental and demonstration orchard at Cranbrook, all the work being carried on muder the superintendence of the Department of Agricutture. The educational advantages of this will be apparent to those interested.

#### MINING

The first product which bronght East Kootenay under the notice of the outside world was gold. As early as 1864 placer claims bearing rich deposits were discovered on Wild Horse Creek, back of Fort Steele. This resulted in an influx of prospectors so that at one time the hills of the District were covered with small parties of seekers after earth's richest product. Fort Steele in the early days reached a population of from 4,000 to 5,000 people, and was, until the opening of the Crows Nest Pass branch of the C.P.R., the only town in the District.

The above-mentioned placer works which started this mining excitement are still in operation, and a fai. count of gold is being taken annually from Wild Horse Creek hydraulic workings. It is a well established fact that the hills on either side of the Kootenay are rich in quartz ores, many properties having been developed

**Page Twenty-Nine** 



fac enough to prove their worth, but work has been prosecuted on comparatively few, owing to the lack of transportation, which defect is now rap-dly being removed by the construction of the Kootenay Central Railway.

The next rich discovery in placer gold was at Perry Creek, about 15 miles northwest of Cranbrook, and the primitive methods employed from the time of discovery have recently been superseded by modern hydraulic appliances.

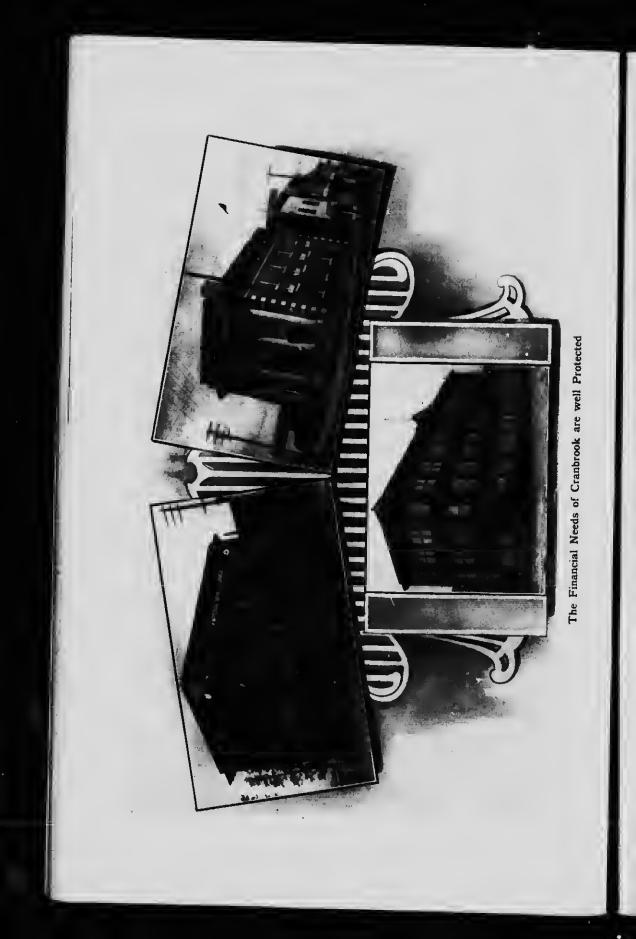
The North Star Mine above Kimberly, a silver lead proposition, has been a steady shipper up to within the last year or so. Its exploitation is by no means complete. In the early days the ore was teamed from the mine to a point on the Kootenay River, a distance of some 13 miles; from there it was taken down to the Great Northern Railway at Jennings, Montana, by scows, and the ore was rich enough to show a handsome profit even with that crude method of transportation. The Sullivan Group Mines, which are adjacent to the North Star Group and are being extensively worked, have been taken over by the Consolidated Mining & Smelting Company, who also operate the famous St. Eugene mine at Moyie, 20 miles south of Cranbrook. At this point are also situated the Anrora and Society Girl mines. These properties are merely mentioned in passing as examples of what has been done. Prospects innumerable have been developed far enough to give an excellent showing in gold, copper, iron, silver, lead, asbestos, lime, zinc and other minerals. Pending the arrival of suitable transportation facilities, large quantities of excellent ore lie on the dump.

The geological survey of the entire district is nearing completion under the direction of the Dominion Department of Mines, and the information thus obtained will be of great advantage to the mining industry.

#### SPORT

East Kootenay can veritably be called the sportsman's paradise, the wooded hillsides giving a peerless feeding ground for grouse, partridge and prairie chicken, and the small streams and lakes abound in trout, while wild duek and geese are numerous. Large game is

Page Thirty-One



found higher in the hills, while on the bald peaks of the Rockies the very finest specimens of mountain sheep and mountain goat lure the sportsman from the safer playgrounds of the less venturesome.

Space does not permit mention of the many varieties of other wild game which give the sportsman many days of pleasant outing in the hills.

Cranbrook is fortunate in having good athletic clubs of various sorts, lawn tennis, baseball, golf and cricket in the summer, and skating, curling, hockey, and snow-shoeing to fill in the winter months. The skating and curling rinks are both a great credit to the town and monuments to the energy and progressiveness of its citizens, while the excellent roads under Government supervision afford every advantage for motoring through unsurpassed scenery,

#### MARKETS

In the Crow's Nest Pass Coal fields, adjoining the Cranbrook District on the east, there is a large and increasing population. The toal measures are capable of yielding 10,000,000 tons for 1,000 years, the present output being over 1,000,000 tons annually.

The market afforded by the gold, silver, lead, zinc and copper mines in the district, together with the numerous hunder and logging camps, already greatly exceeds the supply.

The city of Cranbrook and other cities and towns of the district.

The Railway Dining service, for which Cranbrook is a supply point.

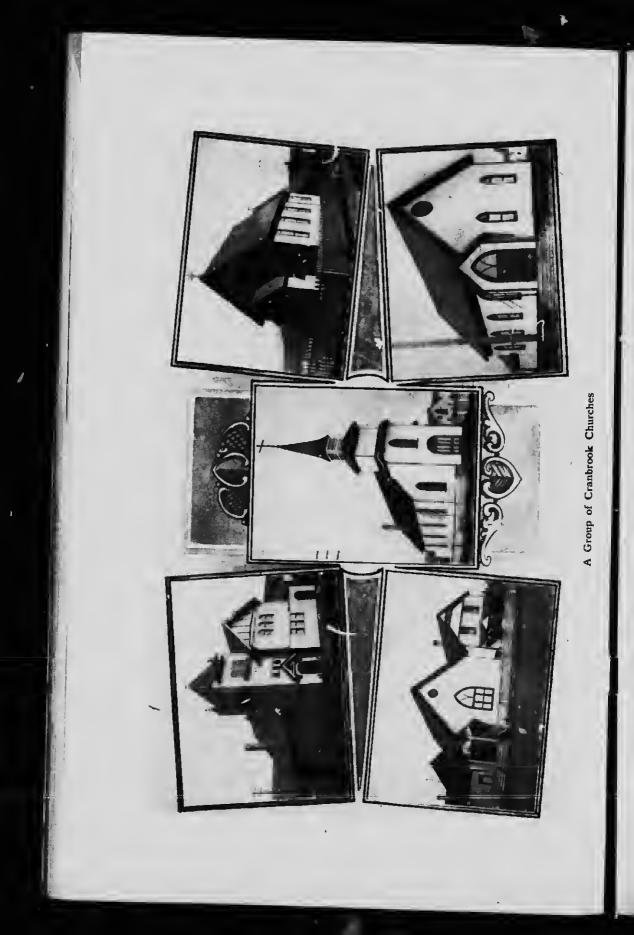
The vast grain growing provinces to the east with their increasing population, demand many products which are more successfully grown in the Cranbrook District.

#### PRICES

The following are the average prices which have been obtainable by producers:—

Hay.--\$25 to \$35 per ton. Importations in 1910, about 10,000 tons,-increasing.

0



Oais.-\$30 to \$40 per ton. Importations, 1910-a' mt 10,000 tons.

Potatoes .- \$20 to \$55 per ton.

Cabbage.—ic. to  $1\frac{1}{2}$ c. per pound.

Onions .- 13/4c. to 21/2c. per pound.

Other Vegetables.--- ic. to 2c. per pound. Exceptionally large local demand for all vegetables.

Butter .- 25c. to 40c. per pound, practically all imported.

Cheese.-10c. to 121/2c. All imported.

Dressed Beef .-- 7c. to 10c.

Dressed Hogs.—9c. to 12c.

Dressed Sheep .-- 10c. to 15c.

Hams, Bacon.—18c. to 25c. Importation about 2,000,000 pounds.

Beef on Hoof.-4c. to oc.

Pork on Hoof .-- 71/2c. to IOC.

Sheep, Live.-6c. to 71/2c.

Lard.—121/2c. to 15c. About 200,000 pounds imported annually. Chickens.—20c. to 25c. per pound.

Eggs.—In cases, 25c. to 35c.

Eggs.-Fresh, 35c. to 90c. About 300,000 dozen imported.

Turkeys.-25c. to 30c. per pound.

Geese .- 20c. to 25c. per pound.

Ducks.-20c. to 25c. per pound.

Apples .- About 5c. to 61/2c. per pound.

Strawberries .-- 10c. per pound.

Gooseberries and Currants.- toc. to 121/2c. per pound.

For all fruits the demand is greatly in excess of the local supply.

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# THE CITY OF CRANBROOK

The City of Cranbrook is situated in the centre of this beautiful and productive valley of south east Kootenay. The Rockies and Selkirks lie on either side, but not too distant to permit enjoyment of their grandeur, while surrounding the city are large areas of prairie and park lands, dotted with small farms and gardens.

It is essentially a city of homes, the substantial character and architectural beauty of which are an indication of the wealth and refinement of its enterprising citizens and argue well for its permanancy. It has already a population of some 4,000.

Rents run from \$15 per month for the smaller cottages to \$35 for the large houses, and the demand is somewhat in excess of the supply, although a great number of dwellings are erected each year.

THE ASS FUILTER CO., Wardner, B.C.

#### EDUCATIONAL

Cranbrook's educational advantages are also excellent. There is a large modern ten-roomed brick school in which classes of the public and high school are held, but the rapid increase in attendance has already necessitated the making of provision for additional accommodation. Two blocks of land have been secure, to provide sites for a high school, manual training, and further accommodation to meet the needs of the public school.

## PUBLIC BUILDINGS

The Provincial Government has erected at Cranbrook a handsome building for accommodation of the officers who deal with all matters pertaining to land, water, roads, mines, revenue, and the administration of justice.



The city has a handsome numicipal building, six churches, two opera houses, three banks, large hospital, containing — rooms with

room addition now under construction, curling and skating rinks, 9 hotels, large Y.M.C.A., Masonic Hall, LO.O.F. and K. of P. Hall. The Dominion Covernment has under construction a large brick building for post office and enstoms.

### INDUSTRIAL

Craubrook is the commercial centre and distributing point for the District. Its financial and material development is assured by the many industries tributary, for example, that of humber, comprising some 25 saw mills having an average daily capacity of 1,000,000 feet board measure, besides the large number employed in making railway ties, mine props, poles, posts and piling, which constitute by no means a small item, and the continuance of this industry is assured for many decades by the great wealth of the forests.

It is also the employment and supply centre for the mines, and the market point for the farmers of the District.

Wess, howing Intention Planes.

The city has two good newspapers and three job printing plants. It has numerous well appointed stores, wholesale grocery and hardware establishments, two sash and door factories, brick yard, steam laundry and foundry. It has an excellent electric light system which is in a position to furnish electricity for power. It has a municipally owned gravity water system, and a sewage system is in course of construction. The telephone system for the district centres here and furnishes remarkably cheap communication between all points in the District, and its trunk line connect- with the western States on the one side and the Prairie Provinces on the other.

At Cranbrook also is the divisional point of the Canadian Pacific Railway and the headquarters of the Superintendent and Resident Engineer. From this point is operated the North Star branch, the C. & E. Railway, Macleod to Calgary; and to these will be added the Kootenay Central, now being constructed between the adjacent town of Wardner and the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, about 200 miles to the north.

Large engine and car repair shops are also located at Cranbrook, employing mechanics, and other skilled labor.

The railway pay roll at Cranbrook is already \$75,000 per month.

From Craubrook radiate wagon roads by which all points of the District may be reached. These roads are maintained by the Provincial Government, and there are no tolls.

#### FAIR GROUNDS

The Cranbrook Agricultural Association own excellent fair grounds, containing some 25 acres, overlooking the city, on which is a half mile track, first class accommodation for live stock, handsome exhibition buildings, and otherwise fully equipped for the race meets and fairs.

## RAILWAY FACILITIES

Cranbrook may be reached:

1. By C.P.R. from all eastern Canadian points.

2. By Soo-Spokane-Portland Line from middle and eastern States and also all Pacific Coast points.

3. By Great Northern, via Lethbridge or via Elko, connecting with C. N. Pass branch of C.P.R.

4. By C.P.R. from Western British Columbia.

5. By Kootenay Central Branch of C.P.R. under construction from all points north.

6. By North Star Branch of C.P.R. from the Marysville and Kimberly mining districts.

# **OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW INDUSTRIES**

In the City of Cranbrook there are openings for manufacturers of lime sewer pipe, tile, pressed and common brick, and allied products, for woodworking, including boxes and matches, and pulp. There is an exceptional opportunity on account of the large amount of raw material available. There is also an excellent opportunity for flour mill, creamery, and jam factory.

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#### In the District:

.*Mining*, silver, lead, gold, copper and iron. Prospects and mines in various stages of development are awaiting capital for their proper development.

Water power is being developed in the District, and there are several other excellent sites at which power might be profitably developed for the foregoing and existing industries.

The District affords splendid opportunities for those desirous of investing in gilt edged mortgages, and other securities at an attractive rate of interest.

## SETTLER'S EFFECTS FREE

Settler's effects, viz.: Wearing apparel, books, usual and reasonable household furniture and other household effects; instruments and tools of trade, occupation or employment; guns, musical instruments, domestic sewing machines, typewriters, bicycles, carts, waggons and other highway vehicles; agricultural implements and live stock for the farm, not to include live stock or articles for sale, or for use as a contractor's outfit, nor vehic nor implements moved by mechanical power, not machinery for use in any manufacturing establishment; all the foregoing if actually owned abroad by the settler for at least six months before his removal to Canada and subject to regulations by the Minister of Customs, may be brought into Canada free of duty; provided that any dutiable articles entered as settler's effects may not be so entered unless brought by the settler on his first arrival, and shall not be sold or otherwise disposed of without payment of duty until after twelve months' actual use in Canada.

A settler may bring into Canada, free of duty, live stock for the farm on the following basis, if he has actually owned such live stock abroad for at least six months before his removal to Canada, and has brought them into Canada within one year after arrival, viz.: If horses only are brought in, 16 allowed; if cattle only brought in, 16 allowed; if sheep only are brought in, 160 allowed; if swine only are brought in, 160 allowed. If horses, cattle, sheep and swine are brought in together, or part of each, the same proportions as

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above are to be observed. Duty is to be paid on live stock in excess of the number above provided for. For customs entry purposes, a mare with a colt under six months old is to be reckoned as one animal; a cow with a calf under six months old is also to be reckoned as one animal. Cattle and other live stock imported into Canada are subject to Quarantine Regulations.

Further particulars may be had of:

# SECRETARY BOARD OF TRADE, CRANBROOK, B.C.

AGENT GENERAL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA Salisbury House, Finsbury Circus, LONDON

CANADIAN COMMISSIONER OF IMMIGRATION, III2 Charing Cross, LONDON, W.C.

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