

cultural and stock-raising pursuits. In this part are to be found the most extensive farms in the province, as well as the largest cattle ranges. Many can count their herds by the thousands of head, and their broad fields by thousands of acres. The district is an extensive one and within its borders are to be found large lakes, the principal one being Okanagan, whilst such streams as the Spallumcheen, the Simelkameen and other large rivers flow through the district.

Okanagan is famous as a grain growing country. For many years this industry was not prosecuted with either vigour or profit. Of late a marked change has taken place in this respect. Samples of wheat raised in Okanagan, sent to Vienna Exposition in 1886, were awarded the highest premiums and bronze medals.

One of the best flouring mills in the Dominion is now in operation at Enderby, some 35 miles south of Sicamous, a station on the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, which is reached by navigation for vessels of light draught. The flour manufactured at these mills from Okanagan, grown wheat is equal to any other to be found on the Continent. The climate is specially adapted to the growth of wheat, which is now reaching extensive dimensions—said to be of several thousands of tons a year. The capacity of the Enderby mill is 150 barrels of flour per day. It is operated to its utmost capacity. Farmers here find a ready cash market for all the wheat they can possibly grow, an advantage which every farmer will fully appreciate.

There are still to be taken up immense stretches of the very best land, which is but lightly timbered and easily brought under cultivation. Water is abundant in some sections, whilst in others it is scarce, rendering irrigation by artesian wells a necessity.

Okanagan is also a very rich mineral district. Valuable mines are now being operated within its limits, which extend southerly to the American boundary.

The approaching completion of the Shuswap and Okanagan Railway to Vernon, the capital of the district, from the main line of the Canadian Pacific, a distance of 52 miles, will prove an immense impetus to this splendid section of country. From Vernon there will be first-class navigation up Lake Okanagan for a distance of 100 miles. The country tributary to the lake throughout is capital, and will shortly become thickly populated.

There is room for many settlers in this southern area, and locations are plenty where good soil, excellent pasturage, and an ample supply of timber are to be found. This comprises pine, spruce, cedar, hemlock, balsam and other kinds. On the high lands that back the valleys, forest succeeds forest, the trees of which attain the enormous growth for which this province is so famous. These places, like many other desirable localities in British Columbia, were formerly reached only by the adventurous who secured homesteads and founded settlements that are now within a day's journey from the line of railway. In the region that lies between the Shuswap Lakes and the coast range, there are two distinct climates, the dry and the humid; the one to the north of the Thompson and Fraser, and the other between the 49° and 50° parallel, each possessing its distinctive attraction to settlers. A short distance east of the Shuswap Lakes the Canadian Pacific enters the mountain passes of the Gold or Columbia Range. This is another region of magnificent timber. The fir and cedar attain dimensions far exceeding anything known in the east of America, and only equalled by those found on the west side of the coast range. Their value is enhanced by proximity to the prairies, where there is an ever-growing demand for this species of timber.