

CANADIAN PACIFIC HOTELS

While the perfect sleeping and dining-car service, peculiar to the Canadian Pacific Railway, provides every comfort and luxury for travellers making the continuous trip between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, the Railway was no sooner opened than it was found necessary to provide places at the principal points of interest among the mountains, where tourists and others might explore and enjoy, at their leisure, the magnificent scenery with which the line abounds.

With this end in view, the Company have erected at convenient points, hotels which will not only serve these purposes, but should, by their special excellence, add another to the many elements of superiority for which the Railway is already famous.

Proceeding westward, the first point selected was Banff, about twenty miles within the Rocky Mountains and forty miles east of their summit, where the natural attractions of the place had already led the Government to set aside an extensive tract as a National Park.

THE BANFF SPRINGS HOTEL

is placed on a high mountain promontory, 4,500 feet above the sea level, at the confluence of the Bow and Spray rivers, and is a large, handsome and well-built structure, with every convenience that modern ingenuity can suggest, and costing about a quarter of a million dollars. While it is not intended to be a sanitarium, in the usual sense, the needs and comforts of invalids are fully provided for, and the hotel will be kept open throughout the year. The hot sulphur springs, with which the region abounds, vary in temperature from 80 to 121 degrees, and in addition to the bathing facilities provided by the hotel, the Government has protected, improved and beautified the springs, and constructed picturesque bathing-houses and swimming baths. The springs are much like those of Arkansas, and the apparently greater curative properties of the waters are no doubt due, in part, to the cool, dry air of the mountains incident to their elevation. The spring waters are specially efficacious for the cure of rheumatic, gouty and allied affections, and are very beneficial in affections of the liver, diabetes, Bright's disease and chronic dyspepsia.

A number of sub-ranges of the Rocky Mountains radiate from Banff, and looking up the valleys between them, in every direction, long lines of white peaks are seen in grand perspective. A dozen mountain monarchs within view raise their heads a mile or more above the hotel; and the Bow River, coming down from its glacier sources at the west, widens out as it approaches, then suddenly contracts and plunges over a precipice immediately at our feet, and then widening out again, is finally lost among the snow-capped peaks toward the east.

Mountain sheep and goats abound in the neighboring hills, and Devil's Head Lake, not far away, a deep glacier-fed body of water, a mile or two in width, and fifteen miles long, affords excellent sport in deep trolling for trout, which are here taken of extraordinary size.

The hotel rates are from \$3.50 per day and upwards, according to the rooms selected, and special rates by the week or the month will be given on application to

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THE MOUNT STEPHEN HOUSE,

a pretty chalet-like hotel, is situated fifty miles west of Banff, in Kicking Horse Cañon, at the base of Mount Stephen,—the chief peak of the Rockies in this latitude, whose stupendous mass is lifted abruptly 8,000 feet above. This is a favorite stopping-place for tourists and mountain climbers, and there is good fly fishing for trout in a pretty lake near by, and "big horns" and mountain goats are found in the vicinity. Looking down the valley from the hotel, the Ottertail Mountains are seen on the left, and the Van Horne range on the right. In the latter, the two most prominent peaks are Mts. Deville and King. This is a favorite region for artists, the lights and shadows on the near and distant mountains giving especially interesting subjects for the brush.