



GREATER VANCOUVER

ILLUSTRATED



Vancouver, the Liverpool of the Pacific, is one of the municipal wonders of the Twentieth Century. Twenty years ago the site of the city was a collection of huts with a few hundred inhabitants where now is found a magnificent metropolis with well onto a hundred thousand people living within its limits, and more coming by the thousands each year.

The site of Vancouver has all the fundamental elements to make a great commercial and industrial centre. It has unrivalled transportation facilities represented in the splendid lion-guarded harbor and transcontinental railways. It has lying directly contiguous to it forests of boundless wealth, minerals and metals are found in immense quantities in the surrounding mountainous country. One of the richest agricultural and horticultural sections of the world is directly tributary. Its waters abound in commercial fish, the catch at the present time representing millions of dollars in wealth annually. There is an abundance of natural water facilities to be harnessed and used to develop power for mills and factories. Added to all this the climate is delightful and mild, the thermometer never dropping to zero, nor rising above eighty degrees in summer, and the magnificent scenery of sea and mountain, river and valley attracts thousands of tourists to British Columbia, many of whom ultimately return to take up a permanent residence here, and all of whom sing the praises of this wonderful country and its splendid metropolis to their friends in every portion of the world.

This city lies in the natural path of the world's international commerce and, aided by the development of the boundless resources of the surrounding country and the indomitable spirit and enterprise of its citizens, Vancouver has rightly won a high place among the cities of the North American hemisphere. Her commerce is rapidly expanding, financial operations are substantially increasing, manufacturing industries

are advancing with giant strides, and an uncommon stir of life is in every artery of trade. For several years it has been a rare sight to see an empty house in the city of Vancouver. As fast as a house is finished, and mostly before the workmen have left the building, tenants or owners are moving in, not only one family to a house, but often two or three families occupying a six or seven roomed house. From four to six thousand houses are being erected yearly, but even at that rate it is not possible to accommodate the rush of new residents, many of whom are obliged to make temporary homes in the suburban towns and travel back and forth to their daily work in the metropolis.

It was with the advent of the Canadian Pacific Railway into Vancouver in 1887, a year after the city's incorporation, that the great possibilities in the place began to loom up big and attract the attention of the world. With every passing year larger size and increased commercial greatness and importance was attained, the movement gaining momentum with the passing of the years until today the record has been reached of a gain in population of a thousand people per month.

The record of Vancouver's growth in population is almost unbelievable. Incorporated in 1886 with a population of less than a thousand people, ten years later there were approximately 20,000 inhabitants, and in the little more than a decade that has passed since that time, this number has been increased nearly four hundred per cent, the population at the present time being placed at 80,000. Since the beginning of 1906 the population has increased at an average of 1,000 per month. The actual city limits have already been over-reached in every direction by the demand for residential sites, and it would seem that before many years the "Greater Vancouver" of the future will be bounded on the south-east by the City of New Westminster, and occupy the entire peninsula between the Fraser River and Burrard Inlet; while on the north