

Canada's Island Playground

Where 1,000 Miles of Wonderland Await the Motorist

By FRANK GIOLMA

Four years ago barely 50,000 tourists came to Victoria during the spring, summer, fall and winter months, while during last summer alone more than 200,000 people made Victoria, the beautiful capital city of British Columbia, the Mecca of their summer holidays.

Yet Victoria is not a big city: with its beautiful suburbs of Oak Bay, Esquimalt and Saanich, it has a population of about 60,000, which is considerably less than the populations of some other cities of the Pacific Northwest. It is not its size that irresistibly attracts the travel in ever-increasing numbers. What is it then?....

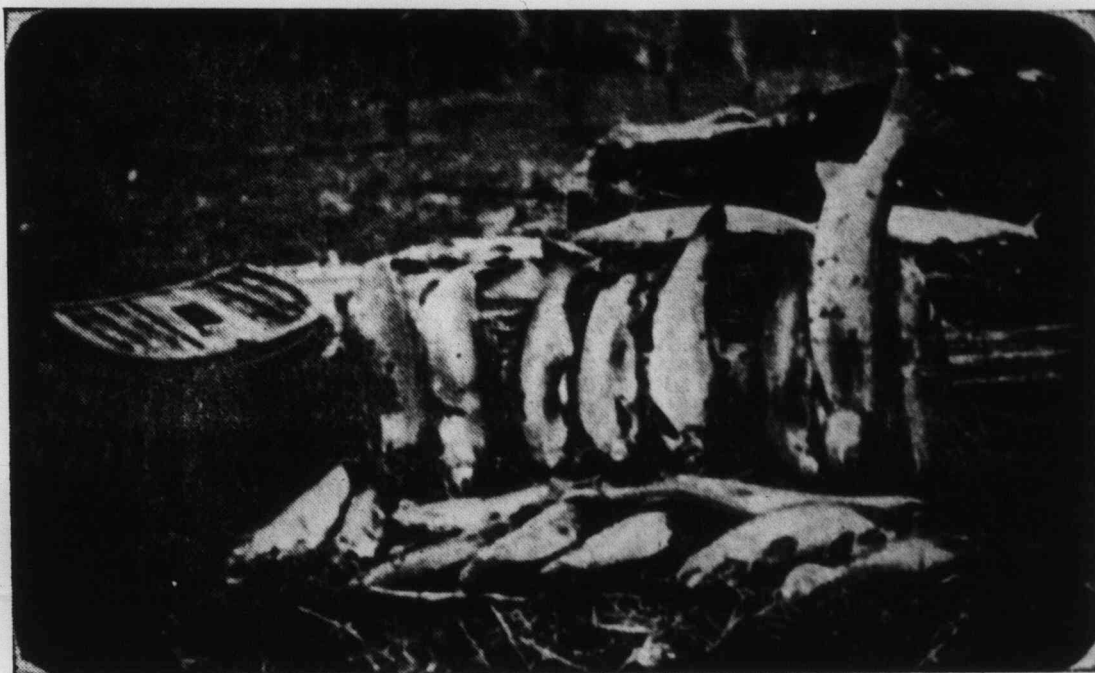
SEVERAL NOTABLE OPINIONS

Here is how Mr. H. L. Osborne of St. Paul, Minnesota, tries to picture Victoria's summer charm: "It would be difficult indeed to compress into a few words the many summer charms of Victoria—it's most romantic historic background—wonderful seaside location—the movements of shipping and sailings to and from the Orient and Australia, with the interesting people one sees in consequence—the beautiful homes and gardens—the wonderful atmosphere and temperature and the leisurely life, all of which and much more unite to make life there a joy. We have been annual visitors since 1915 and have been more and more enchanted every time."

Or note the words of the world-famous Bishop Hills: "Victoria must be, I think, the most lovely and beautifully situated place in the world. I never saw anything before like it. In the Summer it must be exquisite. There is every sort of scenery, sublime mountains, placid sea, noble forest trees, undulating park-like glades interspersed with venerable oaks, inland lakes and rivers abounding with fish. The climate is

thoroughly English, a little milder. The shops are excellent. There is nothing, no luxury or comfort which you cannot procure. Some things are dearer than in England, others cheaper."

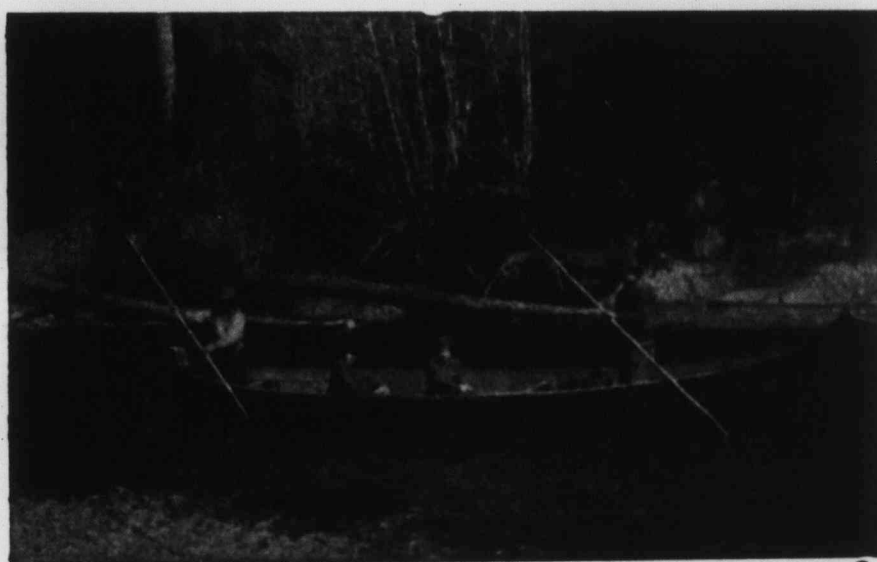
If these two testimonials do not convince you, read what Mr. Rudyard Kipling writes: "To realize Victoria," he says, "You must take all that the eye admires most in Bournemouth, Torquay, the Isle of Wight, the Happy Valley at Hong Kong, the Doon, Sorrento, and Camps Bay; add reminiscences of the Thousand Islands and arrange the whole round the Bay of Naples, with some Himalayas for the background."



Two Hours' Catch of Real Island Trout.

IF STILL UNDECIDED—READ ON

If you are still undecided to make Victoria your Mecca next summer, let me decide for you. Read on, and I'll tell you



Canoe Poling on the Cowichan River.



Typical Island Lake.

what you'll find here on Vancouver Island.

You will find a city of 60,000 people, a city of beautiful homes, gorgeous gardens and old-world peace. A city where business is made subservient to life and joy and happiness, a city where the flivver is made to minister to home life but has not in any way taken its place. A city washed on two sides by the turquoise Pacific and on the remaining two straggling out into an old-world landscape of orchards and farms, guarded by great timber-crowned hills and mountains in the far distance.

Just so soon as you step on board any of the palatial passenger steamers or auto ferries that ply through sheltered waters and among a thousand emerald islands between Victoria and the mainland ports of Anacortes, Bellingham, Port Angeles, Seattle or Vancouver, you will feel that you have left your cares behind, checked and left them on the Mainland, as one traveller aptly put it.