

# British Columbia as a Vacation Land

**W**E ought to have a law making it a misdemeanor to work more than eleven months in a year. A man can do more work in eleven months than he can in twelve. We need more vacations, more holidays, more picnic parties, more Saturday afternoons in the woods. All men need a change occasionally; a change of work, change in thought, a change of scene, a change of climate—and this applies to all women. In planning a vacation, there is one person who is too often forgotten—the wife. She, too, needs a vacation.

"You are tired out—physically, mentally, if not morally. Do you know why? Because you disobey all the laws of your nature and live an artificial life. God made the country and man made the city. There is no life in the town. There

valley, great cities on the plain, great inventions, tremendous traffic, sea covered with ships, the air filled with aerial conveyances and mighty empires established. Who can look upon the towering Canadian Rockies or the majesty of the ocean without being transfigured? You can't develop great men in a tub or in any confined area. It takes more than books and colleges and churches and society and work to develop great souls. It requires the fields, the woods, the hills and streams, birds and butterflies and flowers, the boundless prairies, the great rushing, roaring rivers, the grand anthem of the waterfalls, the dense silent forests; the wonderful canyons, the soul inspiring mountains, the north wind, the soft balmy zephyrs of the south, the awful grandeur of the ocean storm—all enter into and help to develop the

Eastern Canada and the Western Prairies, British Columbia is wonderful, and it transforms one so completely that it of all places is surely ideal for summer vacation. It is the land of sunshine, the playground of the Dominion, the roof garden of North America, where the clouds drop down to earth and the mountains kiss the sky.

There is exercise and climate, air and scenery, and something akin to inspiration that makes the aged young. If there are any microbes or impurities in your system, they will disappear if you stay long in the Rockies of British Columbia. If people would save money they spend for drugs and doctors' bills, and come to British Columbia, their increased strength would be the wonder of their life.

A trip to British Columbia from any point in



is death in it. Life is out of doors. There only can you get the renewal of the forces of life. Get out into the open. If only for one hour each day, get out into the free spaces where the touch of primeval things puts a thrill through you. Feel the shine of the sun in its life-giving warmth, the air that is wine, the soil that is electric. Get out of the stifle of the town. Get out of lassitude, self-inflicted. Get out where there is real life. Listen to the lure of the wild."

The ordinary vacation is not long enough. The man who expects to build up a great business or to do things far removed from the ordinary must occasionally have an extraordinary change. A vacation loses two-thirds of its value if taken at home. Take to the lakes, the woods, the mountains, the ocean. At least get away from local scenes.

Come to British Columbia and drink inspiration from your surroundings. Absorb the electricity from the ground. Go up into the mountains and commune with nature. Hunt, fish, climb hills, ride, row and run. Harmonize with the wild. Mix

broad, rugged, generous, spiritual, indestructible character; and after the wonders of our own country have been seen and felt and lived, there is still more to see, more to know, more to feel.

The people who can take occasional trips have better personalities, live more, and comprehend more than those who stay at home. Travel is soul-developing as well as soul-inspiring. If a man were permitted to glimpse at the next world, he could hardly be the same man again; and he who has been blessed by even nature's indescribable wonders cannot be the same again. He has stood upon holy ground. He has stood where the Architect of the ages has demonstrated His power, and he is compelled to stand like a little child without a word to say.

By travel vision is extended, comprehension enlarged, sympathies are broadened, our appreciation of mankind mightily advanced, opportunities are found more frequently, our knowledge of the world and its ways increased to our own advantage—the best things of the world made our own.

Canada doesn't cost much, but if one comes soon enough it will eliminate many other costs that tear down instead of building up. There is something about the altitude, the mountain air, something about the magnificent scenery and the wonderful formations that gives one enthusiasm, new vigor, a new vision, and a new idea of the world. It takes away the wear and tear of your year's work, but leaves you all your experience. It leaves you rested nerves and a clear brain. It leaves you with less faith in heredity, diseases and liver complaint; if you stay long enough, it will leave you with a pretty strong conviction that most complaints are imaginary, that nearly all sickness is a disease of the mind instead of the body. Ideas don't come to a man who is worn out; but spend a couple of months in British Columbia and ideas and opportunities come in abundance. It is the ideas that a man appropriates and uses that determine the extent of his business. Constant thinking and planning causes one to go to seed, but a vacation in British



with the elements, and in a month or six weeks you come back and get a week's work off in a day. You have inspiration and zeal and magnetism and power. As a man absorbs magnetism and strength and stores up latent energy from his contact with nature, so does he store up knowledge and acquire personality, greatness of character and breadth of mind by mingling with the peoples.

Why shouldn't people travel more and see more of British Columbia? If one becomes a part of all he sees, why shouldn't he see more? The very ruggedness of the earth is woven into the fibre of the man who has seen for himself.

Two of the great lacks of humanity are the lack of vision and lack of comprehension. Solomon understood this, for he said "where there is no vision, the people perish." The difference between the Indian and the Canadian is vision. The vision of the Indian could only reach the fish in the stream, the game on the plain; but the vision of the white man could see the harvest in the

If we become a part of all we see, why not see the best—not only the grandest scenery, but the greatest achievement of the race? See and hear the greatest men, read the best books, keep in mind the world's best thoughts, the highest ideals, and you become, in part at least, the incarnation of the genius of the world.

It is natural to judge the natural world by its best. Why not judge the people by their best—their virtues instead of the vices? We judge the scenery of the Dominion by the wonderful Rocky Mountains, our giant trees, waterfalls and the ever changing ocean, etc. Why talk about people unless we have something good to say? Why not see the best in them? Tell them of it; tell others about it. The broader the man and the more he has seen of the world, the more capable is he of tempering his justice with mercy and looking with sympathy and kindness upon those whose lot it has been to live in a smaller sphere.

For the people of Europe, for the people of

Columbia will reopen the fountains of wisdom and bring back the exuberance of youth.

After all, the ideal place for a vacation is out in the wilds, where the noise of the traffic is stilled, where occasionally the four-footed denizens of the mountains and valleys can be seen on the dizzy heights. There you can find communion, inspiration and grandeur unspeakable. It matters little where you go in British Columbia. It's all alike and all different. British Columbia is full of world wonders, and the last one seems sublime.

Decide to come to British Columbia and the delightful anticipations of an extensive trip will produce chemical changes in your body and send a flow of life and energy through your system; and when new scenes and an entire change of climate are experienced, if the scenes are unusual enough, there is a feeling of delight. The secretions of the body at once become active, and instead of languor and listlessness of the semi-invalid, there is a buoyancy of spirit and the whole system takes