

Nature is on the side of the farmer and not against him. There are friendly skies and friendly air and friendly soil. Further, too, the mild climate means great variety of plant life. "The whole gamut of vegetable life is run," cabbage, Brussels sprouts, broccoli, kale, cauliflower, beans, artichokes, peas, lettuce, cress, radishes, squash, marrows, onions, leeks, corn, citrons, pumpkins, cucumbers, parsnips, carrots, turnips, mangels, potatoes, salsify, shallots, beets, celery, tomatoes, asparagus, hops, and herbs of all kinds, parsley, savory, sage, majoram, lavender, thyme, horse-radish, mint, lavender, the latter making wonderful growth.

To Stock.—The steadfastness of the climate makes for the comfort of stock in a manner much to be desired. All of the animals and fowl, except horses, in use, and dairy cows can be out of doors all the time, although open sheds for shelter from wind or rain are of course often used. The housing of animals, so great a charge elsewhere, need not here be an item of expense; there being little frost is another advantage. There is no anxious looking for winter killed trees in the spring. No protection is needed for orchard trees or bushes. What is important, too, is the fact that the climate makes possible a wide diversity of farming interests.

Shooting.—Little mention has been made of the prospects of shooting, fishing and athletic enjoyments. It is usually taken for granted that any part of Vancouver Island will furnish these requirements, and a detailed description seems unnecessary. The sportsman and the settler will not be disappointed in these localities. The appearance of deer is more familiar than many a rancher would wish. Venison, however, makes a welcome change in the diet of the settler. There is always a couple of months of open shooting for pheasants, and the sport is greatly enjoyed. The willow grouse and blue-grouse are to be had in great numbers. Last year, moreover, the imported quail which, like the pheasant, has taken most kindly to this part of the Island, were seen here in coveys of great size, often as many as fifty being counted in one covey near the farmhouse. Wild pigeon are found in some years and not in others, a few years ago such quantities of them being seen that they could often be shot from the house verandahs. Generally speaking, the shooting of deer, grouse, quail, pheasant and duck is excellent. All kinds of wild ducks and geese abound along the water-front, especially in the inlets and lagoons; mallard, widgeon, teal, butter-balls, blue-bill, pintail, canvas backs and brant. It is a good thing in this way, also, for a family of boys to be brought up in the country. The chances are good that they will become excellent shots and good sportsmen generally. Most of the boys and young men