

# Eastern Tours

part of the panorama unreeled, mile by mile, as the train proceeds.

Petain is the junction for the Kettle Valley Railway, a new branch line to the orchards of the southern Okanagan Valley and the Kootenays, the mining districts of southern British Columbia, and the prairies of southern Alberta, thus providing an interesting alternative route to the main line.

After leaving Hope, the railway passes through a spectacular series of tunnels pierced through high cliffs overlooking the deep canyon of the Coquihalla River. There is good trout fishing at Othello and, indeed, all the way up the river to Summit. Jessica is the third station within about two miles or so of Ladner Creek, in a district of great natural beauty. At Portia the railway reaches an elevation of about 2,000 feet above sea level. The country has a very rocky, mountainous aspect at the next station, which is called Iago, to keep up the Shakespearean tradition. Near Romeo there is a charming view looking up towards a bald, rocky mountain from Slide Creek bridge. Coquihalla Summit is opposite two delightful lakes. From this point the track falls both ways, the average gradient going west being about 2.2 per cent, whilst that going east being much lighter, about 1 per cent. The elevation of Coquihalla Summit is about 3,300 feet above sea level. The lakes are full of trout and are most interesting from a geological point of view on account of the many crater holes in the formation, caused, it is supposed, from gaseous emanations in ages past. Juliet, the next station, is eternally separated from Romeo by the summit. At Slide Creek there are some picture rocks, rude representations of a horse, supposed to have been painted by the Indians at some remote date. Pentiction, at the lower end of Okanagan Lake, is half way house to Nelson, and as such has an excellent hotel, The Incola. The balmy, equable climate of the lower Okanagan Valley, the excellent motoring, the delightful bathing, the opportunities for motor-boating, sailing, fishing, and, at the proper seasons, for hunting, combine to make this an ideal holiday resort. Pentiction is in the center of one of the most fertile orchard districts in British Columbia and as such has a well-settled community to take part in any social activities. Pentiction is also the southern terminus of the Canadian Pacific steamers plying on the Okanagan Lake, the northern terminus being Okanagan Landing, which has excellent train service through Vernon to Sicamous, on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway. From Pentiction the railway climbs up through the benches to a height which commands a magnificent view of Okanagan Lake, then descends through forest-clad ranges by romantic canyons till the farms and settlements of the lower Kettle Valley are reached. After the junction is made with the Canadian Pacific

Railway at Midway, the train passes by lake and mountain till the beautiful defile of the Columbia River is reached. Out of the windows one looks down upon the sapphire waters of that noble stream, flanked by tall trees and overtowering heights. The train reaches Nelson in the evening and though the boat for the East does not leave till next morning, one can go straight on board to one's comfortable berth.

North Bend is situated in the heart of the Fraser Canyon, amid awe-inspiring surroundings. The Canyon of the Thompson is entered beyond Ashcroft. Its angry waters rush along in a perfect maelstrom. After the junction with the Fraser, at Lytton, the scenery assumes still wilder aspect.

At Sicamous the traveller may board the branch line train to Vernon and other points in the Okanagan Valley. At Sicamous the Canadian Pacific Railway has a splendid hotel, which forms an excellent headquarters for those who wish to stay over for the daylight trip through the mountains.

From Revelstoke (see page 6 for Alternative Route) the line passes through Twin Butte to Albert Canyon. Just east of the station the train runs suddenly along the very brink of several remarkably deep fissures in the solid rock, whose walls rise straight up hundreds of feet on both sides to wooded crags, above which sharp distant peaks cut the sky. The most impressive of these canyons is the Albert, where the river is seen nearly one hundred and fifty feet below the railway, compressed into a boiling flume scarcely twenty feet wide.

## GLACIER A CLIMBING CENTER

**N**EAR the summit of the Selkirk Range lies Glacier, in the midst of a region of mighty peaks and glaciers. Seeming but a few hundred feet away from the hotel, but in reality more than two miles, heap up the massive ice piles of the great Illecillewaet Glacier. To its left towers the monolith of Mount Sir Donald to a height of a mile and a quarter above the railway. Another of the Canadian Pacific's mountain hotels, here, affords an opportunity for a delightful sojourn.

Leading from the hotel, a good trail follows the turbulent course of the Illecillewaet River to the Great

Illecillewaet Glacier and valley; other trails branch off in all directions, inviting and leading the mountaineer, explorer and lover of Nature to scenes of marvelous grandeur and enchanting beauty. Glacier Crest, Lake Marion and Observation Point are among the shorter and easier ascents. Mount Abbot is a day's climb, but not a difficult one. From its summit an exceptionally fine view is obtained of the Asulkan Valley. Easy trails also lead up to the summits of Eagle Peak and Mount Avalanche. The ascent of Mount Sir Donald is more difficult, but with the assistance of experienced guides may readily be accomplished.

An excellent trail leads to the Asulkan Glacier, through scenes of Alpine splendor, and the recently discovered Caves of Nakimu are only distant about seven miles from Glacier House by carriage road and bridle path. These wonderful caverns have been formed by the action of water for ages upon the solid rock, and form a series of chambers with large entrances, polished rock ceilings, and walls which sparkle with quartz crystals and reflect myriads of miniature lights.

Until December of last year the railway climbed over the top of Rogers' Pass through a gorge, subject in winter to heavy snowslides against which the track was protected by four miles of snowsheds. These are now evaded by the double-track Connaught Tunnel, the longest tunnel in North America, which pierces its way through Mount Macdonald. From portal to portal this tunnel measures 26,400 feet, but so straight is the line that the exits are never out of sight.

## FIELD AND THE YOHO VALLEY

**A** STOP-OVER for the night at the Mount Stephen House at Field, another of the Canadian Pacific's mountain hotels, gives one the opportunity of seeing one of the most picturesque districts in the Canadian Rockies.

## DRIVES AND PONY TRIPS

**E**MERALD LAKE, seven miles distant, is reached by a good carriage road down the bank of the Kicking Horse River, and thence around the base of Mount Burgess. On the wooded shore of this beautiful lake the Company has built a picturesque Swiss chalet.

It is an extremely beautiful fourteen-mile drive to the celebrated Takakkaw Falls, of the Yoho Valley, a silver thread of glacial origin dropping 1,200 feet into a still and mighty-treed valley. A trail continues up the valley, past Laughing Falls, and the great Wapta Glacier to the curious Twin Falls, two immense jets of spray that unite in mid-air. The trail leads to a point above the falls from which a wonderful view may be obtained. Other pleasant excursions from Field