

Hudson Bay is passed. This apparent inconsistency is accounted for by the Japanese current that sweeps along the Pacific Coast southward in its circular return to the south, tempering the climate along the coast and the warm winds are swept back by the current of air that flows from the northwest. This 70 degrees latitude on the Pacific Coast has the same average temperature as 50 degrees on the Atlantic Coast.

Referring again to exhibit (f), chart No. 1, showing number of hours of sunshine. The territory through which the railway line runs shows from 16 to 17 hours of sunshine per day, while the south line shows only 15 to 16 hours per day, hence it will be seen that there is a compensation in the actual hours of heat during the growing season that offsets the shorter season that the sun shines in this latitude. Referring again to exhibit (f), chart No. 5, that shows line of equal rainfall. This shows 60 inches of annual precipitation at Bella Coola and plenty of rainfall, excepting a strip about 100 miles wide in the interior of British Columbia, but the people who live in this region say that only in isolated years does the drouth interfere with the raising of crops.

MINERALS AND MINES.

Mining along this line has not, of course, been developed to any extent, owing to lack of transportation, but prospectors who have prospected in a limited way, report coal, iron, gold, copper, etc.

I refer you to Mr. Cartwright's report, page 42, for this information between Bella Coola and Fort McLeod.

FROM FORT McLEOD TO THE SMOKY RIVER.

(Quoting Mr. Langloec.)

COAL DEPOSITS.

Coal deposits of great extent and value have been located and claims covering 75 square miles staked on both sides of the Peace River, a few miles above Hudson's Hope, and the coal is said to be semi-anthracite of good quality. Coal croppings are found in nearly every creek in this part of the country, and it is safe to say that coal mining will be an important industry on the east side of the Rocky Mountains and will furnish a large traffic to a railway. Coal has also been found on the Pine River above the Middle Fork and a number of claims have been staked out in the last year or two. The indications are good, but no development work has been done, and it is difficult to say what value to attach to the fields or to their extent.