

The Climate.

The summer climate of Vancouver, and of all the lower mainland of British Columbia, can be described with no other word than perfect. One must live on the Pacific coast to see its glories and properly understand them. While the winter is very similar to that of England, considerable rain falling, and, in record seasons at rare intervals, snow being on the ground for a day or two, the summer months have no equal. Spring, with its clarifying atmospheric conditions, imparting renewed life to bud and flower, is not particularly distinguishable from the succeeding season except in its shorter hours of daylight, and its more varying weather. But no mistake is possible when the warmer air and glorious nights at last proclaim that summer has arrived.

Beginning sometimes with the middle of June, and at all events with the first of July, there is one unbroken spell of fine weather until late in September and often into October. Daylight begins at a very early hour, as is customary in northern latitudes, and lingers until nine and even ten in the evening. The sun shines unintermittently, and its heat is tempered with the ocean breezes. The temperature during the summer is very normal, and from the first day of July to the last of August little difference is recorded by the thermometer. The highest temperature recorded by the government observer in the meteorological report of 1901 was 85.6.

The salubrious climate of Vancouver is due to the northerly position of the city and the effect of the Japan current. Sheltered from the ocean by Vancouver island, the portion of the mainland on which the city is situated enjoys the balm of the breezes without their chill. The Japan current is of continual duration, moderating the heat of summer, and ameliorating the cold of winter. It is for this reason that rain falls instead of snow, but the disagreeable qualities possessed in other and colder climes are absent. Extremely low temperatures are unusual, the monthly average for the year of 1901 being 49.62, while the record is made of the lowest descent to 15.4. The rainy months are November and December, but even these are