

inlets along the coast afford access by boat to many points quite inland. It is possible to navigate the Fraser up to New Westminster with sea-going vessels, and above that there are a few stern-wheel steamboats. The Skeena is a large river with many rapids, but has been navigated for 150 miles to Hazelton.

POWER There is plenty of coal on Vancouver island and on the mainland also, but, owing to the high price of this fuel, water-power was early sought after. About 1903, the Vancouver Power Company developed a site on the shore of Burrard inlet, 18 miles north of Vancouver. Coquitlam lake is joined by a two-and-a-half-mile tunnel to Buntzen lake, thence through wood-stave pipe, to the plant, 400 feet below. Although the drainage area is only about 200 square miles, yet the excessive rainfall is sufficient to maintain 22,000 H.P. This is transmitted to Vancouver, New Westminster and the Delta, supplying over 100,000 people with light, operating electric roads, etc. The transmission line crosses Burrard inlet by a single span over half a mile in length.

Another station will soon be completed at Stave lake, 35 miles from Vancouver. The drainage area is only 360 square miles, but the rainfall of over 100 inches per year ensures 25,000 H.P., the head being 90 feet. The great rainfall and high heads are, of course, most remarkable conditions.

Central British Columbia—In this area the mountains are separated by four parallel north-and-south valleys, viz., the Fraser, 400 miles long, fairly straight and almost north and south; the Okanagan valley, with Okanagan lake nearly 80 miles long; Columbia river and its lake-expansions, the Arrow lakes, extending 200 miles north and south; and the Kootenay valley parallel to, and a few miles west of, the Rockies.

The Coast range intercepts a large part of the moisture from the Pacific, so that the Fraser and Okanagan valleys are semi-arid, but the Columbia and Kootenay valleys have an ample rainfall and snowfall.

Applying our division of uses to the Fraser river, we find that it furnishes, so far, no domestic water supply. The banks are usually steep and rocky, or else high gravel slopes, which are without arable areas or towns of importance. Owing to the salmon pack, it is a question if the river can ever furnish potable water. The fluctuation of the surface is 50 feet, and the great floods carry quantities of silt which also militates against its use for household purposes. The lower reach