

THE GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY

VICTORIA DAILY COLONIST of October 6, 1906: "It is certainly the most picturesque country one could imagine. We were delighted and surprised at its grandeur, it is like several Norways in one wonderful panorama. Among many other changes for the better that I noticed was that of the improved conditions of travel. The boat in which we made the trip was commodious and comfortable, luxuriously fitted with the latest improvements, with the additional recommendation of good cuisine and attendance, a good sea boat, a genial commander and pleasant and capable officers. We enjoyed the trip immensely, and were fortunate enough to have, as fellow passenger, President Hays of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway. We had thus the chance to visit Prince Rupert. In my opinion it is an ideal location for the terminus, and the harbor is unsurpassed on the coast. At present the hydrographic survey is still incomplete and mariners enter for the first time with natural caution, but once having made the entrance they say that they would have no fear about entering at any time. While we were there the weather was very stormy, with a nasty sea running outside. Inside, however, it was perfectly calm, the position being well protected from the prevailing winds.

"Certainly," continued Mr. Bredt, "there is room there for a great city, and Digby Island would make an ideal suburb or summer resort. Communication would have to be by ferry, I think, though the dividing passage is narrow and the distance short; not greater than between North Vancouver and Vancouver City, if as far; it would be practically a part of the City.

"There is plenty of activity in evidence at Prince Rupert; houses for the engineers are being rapidly constructed and gangs of men are busy clearing land for the townsite. Already there is a very serviceable wharf, which they intend to extend immediately, and everything seems to point to quick development."

The site is a picturesque one. The land slopes back